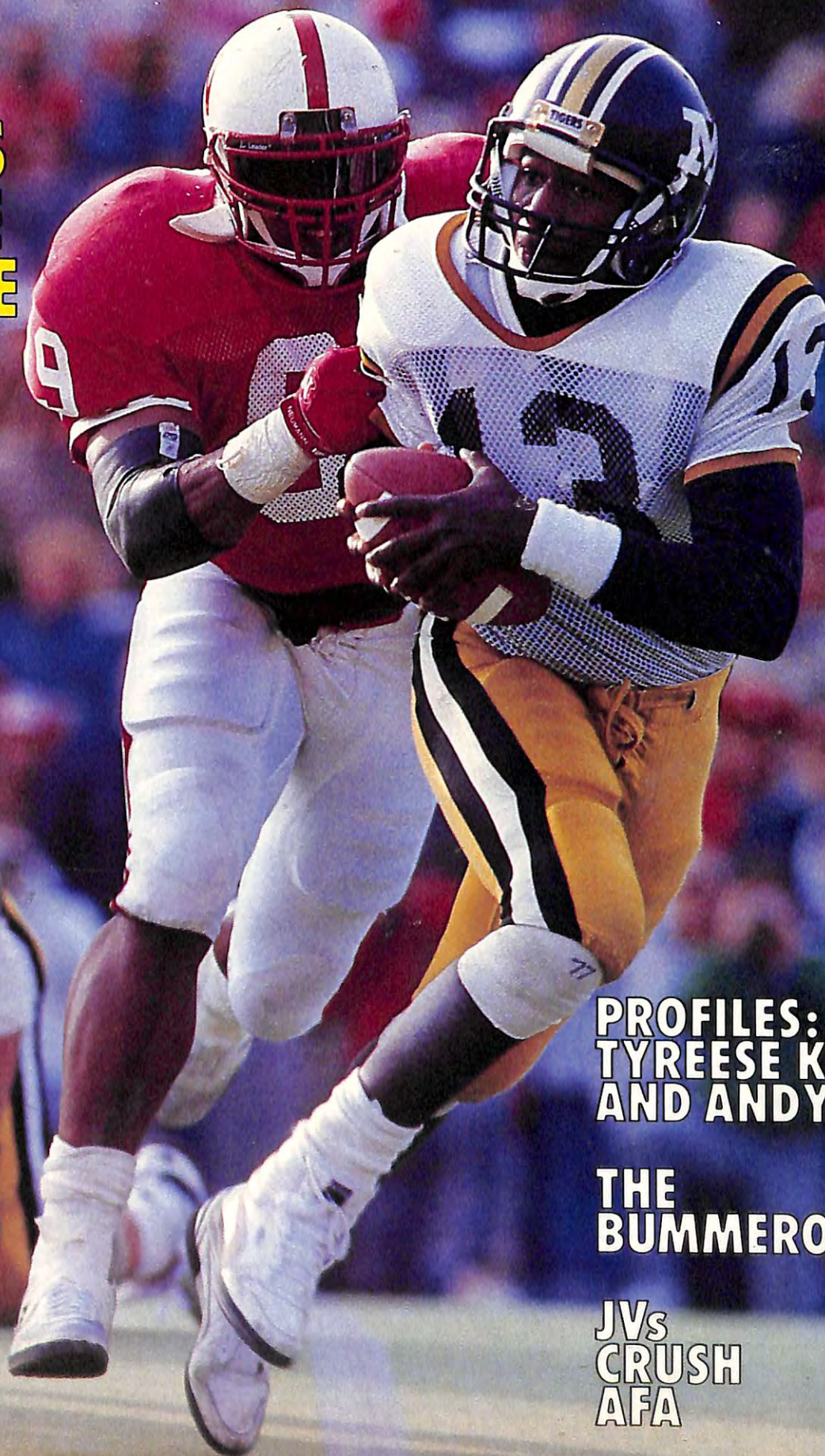


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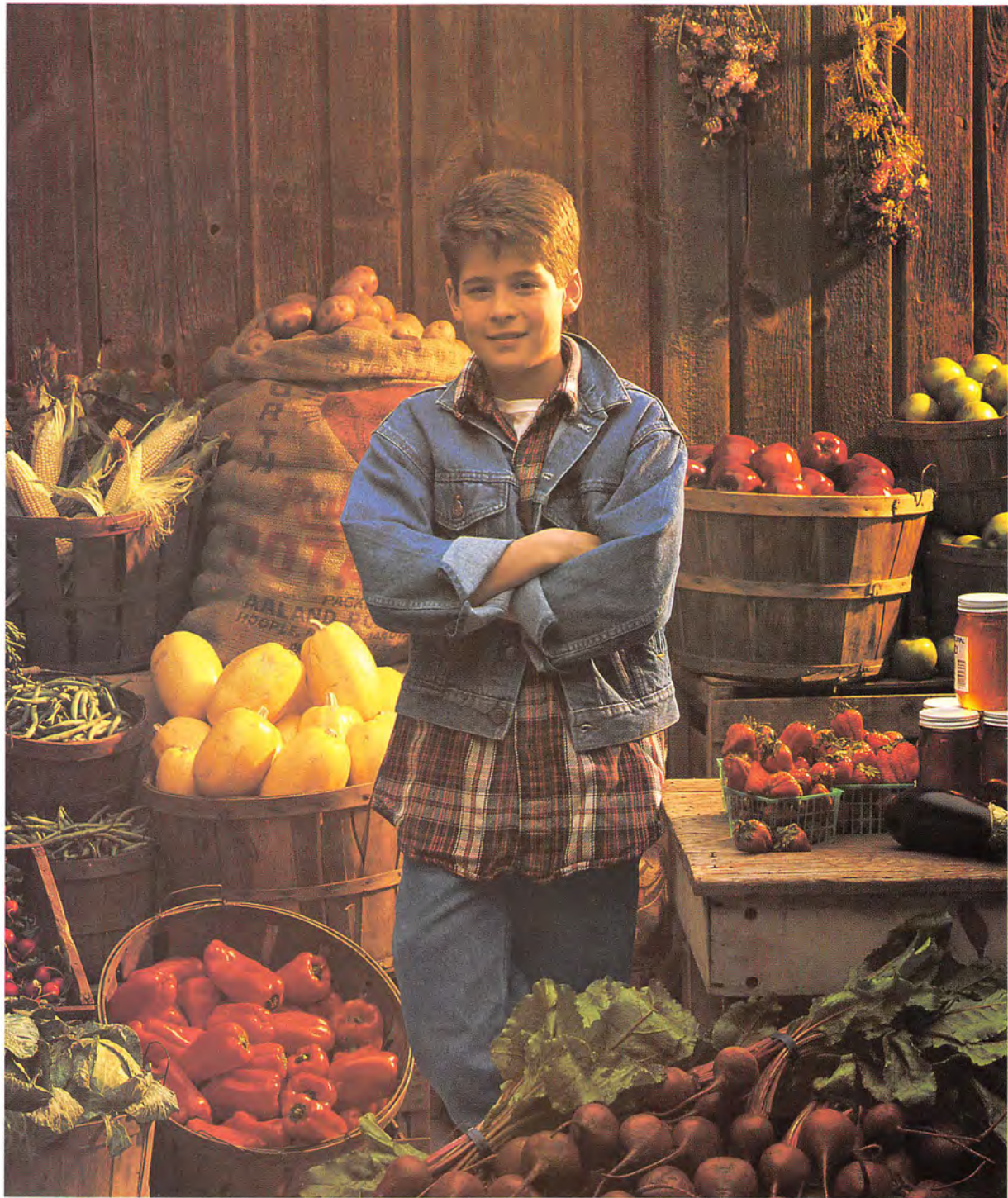
**PROFILES:  
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**THE  
BUMMEROOSKY**

**JVs  
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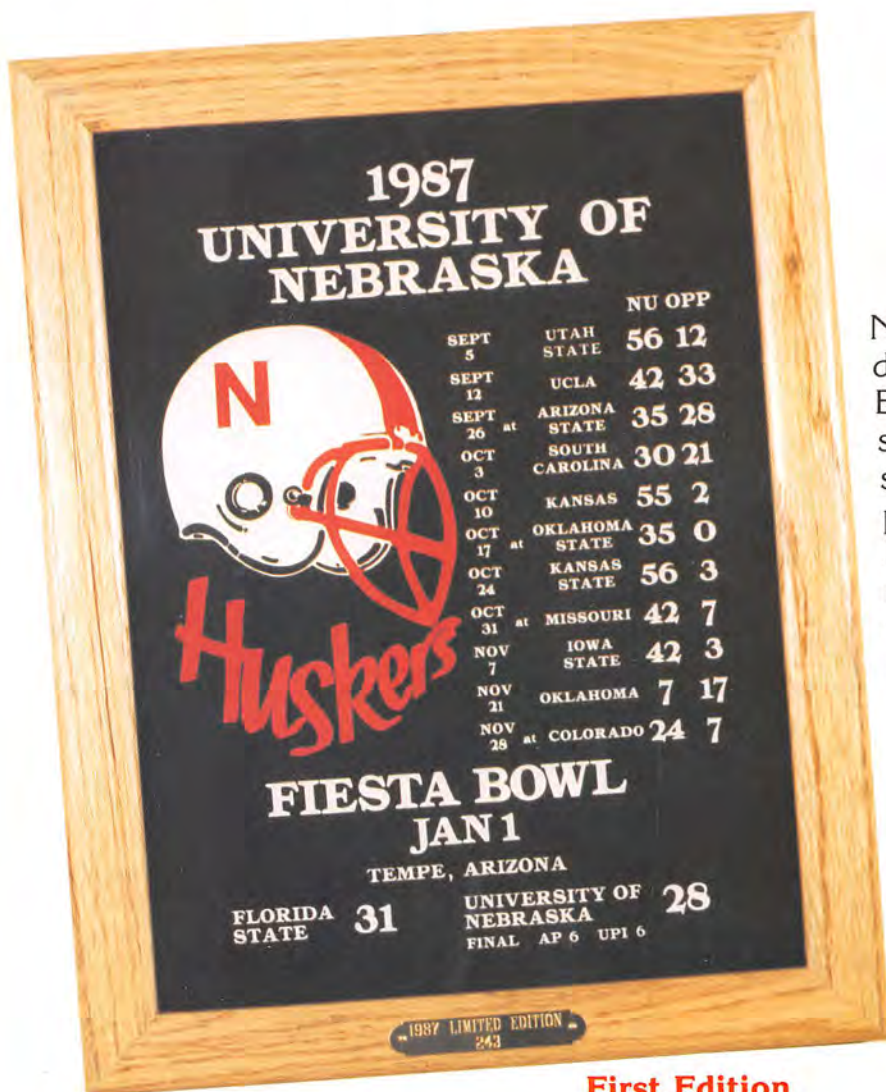




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## CONTENTS

November 5, 1988 ■ Volume 8, Number 15

# Huskers Illustrated



- 10 **NORTH-SOUTH RUNNER** By Pat Quinn  
Tyreese Knox is making his senior year a knockout.
- 34 **ROOSKY-DO!** By Chuck Pool  
The Huskers unveiled their most renowned trick play 13 years ago.
- 38 **JV JUGGERNAUT** By Ken Hambleton  
Nebraska won again, but coaches insist the JVs can still get better.
- 40 **THE KEELER INSTINCT** By Pat Quinn  
Guard Andy Keeler has learned to balance his football and personal life.

8 LETTERS

14 HUSKER HOOPS / Mike Babcock

17 REVIEWING MISSOURI

20 PLAYER OF THE GAME

22 NOTES & QUOTES

24 STATISTICS

26 STATE OF THE HUSKERS/Mike Babcock

28 PREDICTIONS

30 SCOUTING IOWA STATE

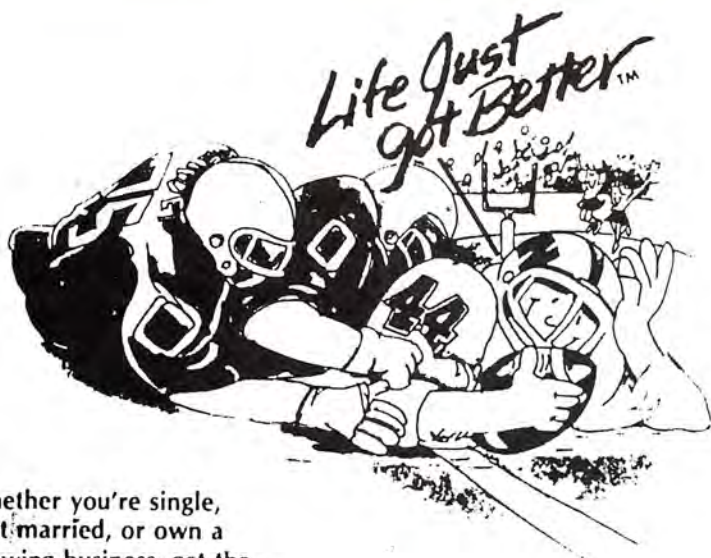
31 COACH'S EVALUATION

32 CONFIDENTIALLY

43 RECRUITING BY REGIONS

46 ASK TOM





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# LETTERS

## WHAT'S BRODERICK'S SECRET?

Dear Huskers:

I have been a Big Red fan since the days of Johnny Rodgers, and now his son Terry. My question is whether or not Terry will be back for the Orange Bowl and the national championship.

I was also wondering how I could write to the Sandman, No. 89, Broderick Thomas. I play defensive end/linebacker, and I try to copy his style.

I think Broderick Thomas is the best football player on the team, and I would like more than anything to get an autographed picture of him.

So I want to ask Broderick Thomas how he plays his position so well, and to just give (me) one secret.

Mark Wood

Anamosa, Iowa

Mark: First, it looks like Terry Rodgers' knee injury is serious enough to keep him out of action until next fall.

Second, to contact Thomas, simply write him in care of: Nebraska Football Offices, 216 South Stadium Building, University of Nebraska, Lincoln, NE 68588. The football staff will forward it to Thomas.

## BLACK SHIRT CONCERNS

Dear Huskers:

I am 12 years old, and I love the Huskers. I have my whole room full of Husker posters and pictures. But I was wondering how all the tough teams we play have run right through our defense. Is it because our defense has a big hole in the middle?

Do you think we could put our linebackers in that gap? Also, do you think we could pass more on our offense because we never get anything running up the middle all the time. Could we pass to the tight end?

Cory Kolm

Madison, Neb.

Cory: We'll pass your suggestions along to the Nebraska coaching staff, but remember that the Black Shirts were leading the Big Eight in total defense and passing defense after the Kansas State game. Also, Nebraska was leading the conference in rushing and total offense after the KSU game. The "middle" at Nebraska may be a little more solid than you think.

## STATS, PLEASE

Dear Huskers:

I enjoy your magazine very much, but something very important is missing this year. What happened to the game statistics? I haven't seen any varsity stats since the Texas A&M game. I hope this changes soon because my local newspaper is turning out to be more informative.

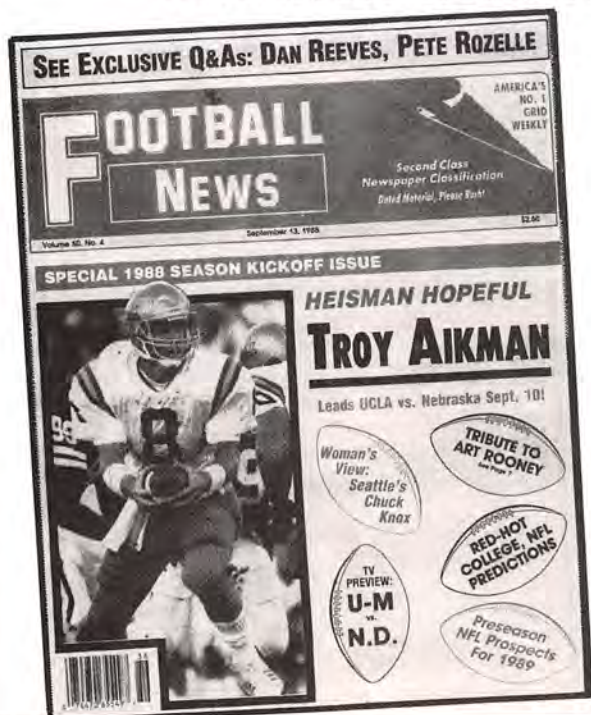
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Dear Huskers:

I want to thank you for a very informative and wonderful publication; I would be lost without it. Where I live, we don't get much coverage at all on Big Red football. People here think I'm nuts because I follow the Huskers so closely, but everyone also knows Nebraska is the only team for me.

I would like to suggest running more stories on the assistant coaches and graduate assistants as well as other people in the football office who make the program run. I also enjoyed the statistics from last year and really found them enjoyable. It helps me keep up with who is playing even when they are not a star of the game.

Along those lines, thank you for the wonderful coverage on the junior varsity team. I find these are the first stories I read when I get my *Huskers Illustrated*, believe it or not. Keep up the good work, and please continue bringing us out-of-staters as much Husker

news as you can fit in.

Ross Grinold  
Cheverly, Md.

Ross and Scott: You'll find in this issue the latest team and individual statistics, designed to keep readers abreast of not only the most recent game, but past games as well. We appreciate your comments and suggestions.

#### WHERE'S ACHOLA?

Dear Huskers:

I would like to know the status of George Achola, an I-back from Omaha who came to Nebraska with the recruiting class of 1987. I did not hear too much about him in 1987 as far as varsity games go, and I figured he might be moving up the depth chart this season, especially with all the injuries we've had at I-back this year.

Is he being redshirted or has he already played in some games this year? Do the coaches think he could help the team next year?

Jack Miller  
Parchment, Mich.

Jack: Achola is redshirting this year, but he came very close to coming off the redshirt when Terry Rodgers was hurt. Achola was the leading rusher for the junior varsity team in 1987 and came very close to breaking the JV single-season rushing record. He saw limited action with the varsity. And, yes, Husker coaches feel he has a bright future.

*We want to hear your comments and answer your questions. Please address them to "Letters," P.O. Box 83222, Lincoln, NE 68501. ■*

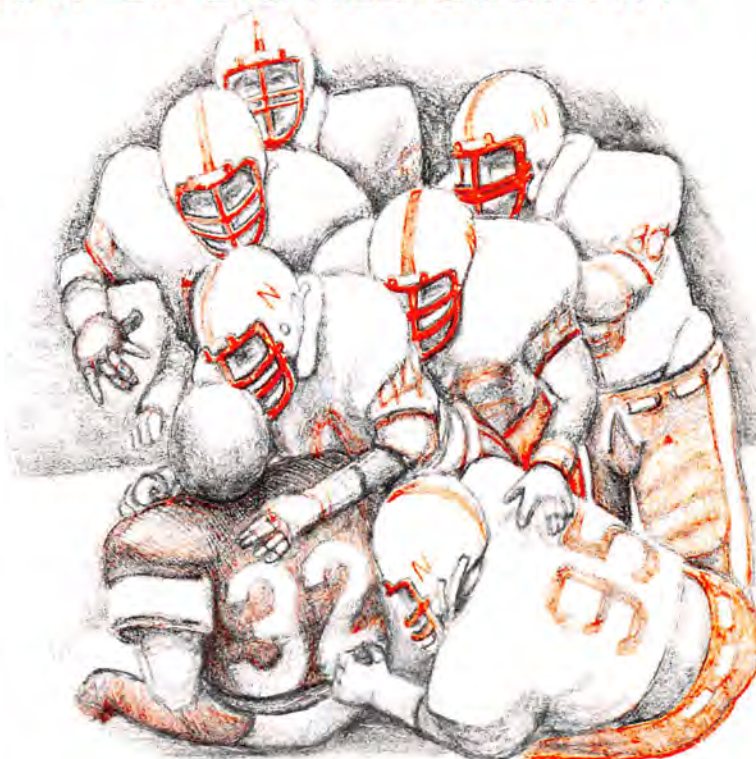
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# North-South Runner From the Far West

TYREESE KNOX IS MAKING HIS SENIOR YEAR A KNOCKOUT.



Knox returned to I-back in 1987 after spending much of 1986 at fullback.

When Tyreese Knox was in the seventh grade he turned down the opportunity to move to San Francisco with his parents. He opted to remain with his grandmother in suburban Daly City, Calif., where he went on to high school fame and ultimately the University of Nebraska.

Now, Knox, a punishing and fast 210-pound I-back for the Cornhuskers, is part of Nebraska's "Frisco Connection" which occupies the attention of Husker football followers each Saturday and Sunday. Saturday, of course, it's Husker football and Sunday, whenever television will permit or a neighbor can beam it down from a satellite, it's the 49ers.

Everyone knows the National Football League's San Francisco franchise has become a haven for Husker running backs, i.e., Roger Craig (1983, 3rd round), Tom Rathman (1986, 2nd round) and Doug DuBose (1987, free agent). Knox would like to kill two birds with a single stone — return to his home by the bay and possibly continue the "Frisco Connection" of 49er running backs from Lincoln.

"Believe it or not, I grew up in two neighborhoods," the personable Knox says. "The first place was in Daly City, where my grandmother lived. There were nice homes and a pleasant neighborhood.

"My folks, who had lived with my grandmother, moved to San Francisco in the summer before my seventh-grade year. They moved into a predominantly black community, made up mostly of apartments and only a couple of blocks from ghetto conditions.

"I had a chance to go to school there, but since I had legal residence established with my grandmother through the



first six grades, I decided to take the option of returning to Daly City."

As a youngster, "I always seemed to have the ability to outrun the other kids," says Knox. "I was very active and didn't like being kept indoors. As far as football goes, most of the time I had to play quarterback when I was a kid because I was so much quicker and bigger than the other guys."

It seemed almost impossible for Knox to attend a school without having to make a change. As a 15-year-old ninth-grader, he started at halfback for Cerra Monte High School, and in his first big game against rival Jefferson, he broke loose for two touchdowns and rushed for more than 100 yards.

Ironically, Cerra Monte was closed the following spring and Knox was ruled as being in the Jefferson High School district. Even though he changed jerseys, Knox was not detoured from his course on the gridiron where he continued a career that caught the eye of *San Francisco Examiner* sports stringer Merv Harris.

"Ty was a special athlete to watch," Harris says. "He got better every year and so did Jefferson's football team. In basketball, he was one of the most fluid players I've ever seen in high school (once he grabbed 28 rebounds in a single game) and was the leader on that team, too, which won the sectional title two straight years.

"By the time he was a senior, he had every major college you could think of recruiting him. On the surface, Ty was a typical, self-assured athletic hero — very popular with everyone.

"But, underneath there was a little insecurity and a warmth that you could discover only after you got to know him."

Harris closely followed Knox through the college recruiting process.

"While Ty wasn't a scholar," says Harris, "he was a bright young man, who qualified to go to any college he wished to attend.

"I remember George Darlington (Husker aide who scouted Knox's talents) claiming Ty had two speeds: fast and, my-gosh-he's-going-to-score-again!"

Knox narrowed his collegiate choices down to Arizona State, Southern Cal



**One of Knox's most memorable runs was a knock-down drag-out ramble against LSU.**

plus the Huskers, and Harris recalls, "He first eliminated Arizona State because they pressured him to sign, and USC seemed to be more interested in another running back (Aaron Emanuel of Palmdale). After he signed with Nebraska, Ty had a few tentative moments but only because Jefferson had produced a lot of college football players but none that had gone to a mid-western powerhouse like Nebraska."

Knox recalls signing with the Huskers: "Sure, I had some anxieties but it was because of Nebraska's great program, not like some who claimed I was running away from talent. Shoot, Nebraska gets to pick among the best high school players in the nation."

Another reason he leaned toward Tom Osborne and the Huskers was, "Nebras-

ka had a situation where Coach Osborne really emphasized his players getting a degree. I liked that, but my folks like it even more.

"I only need 27 hours to graduate, which I will cut in half this semester. I really want this. If I can graduate, I'll be the first one in my family to get a college degree."

This season, despite bouncing back and forth between fullback and I-back, and starting at both spots, he's having his best season rushing the football. His effectiveness, as well as his willingness, at both positions produced plaudits from running back coach Frank Solich.

"Tyreese is an unselfish player, very team oriented," Solich says. "He's shown fine ability in playing both positions. It's likely he'll be an I-back the rest of the year unless unexpected injuries dictate differently.

"He had some physical problems in preseason (a sore hamstring muscle), and consequently he had to work extra hard to get back in shape. That's typical of Tyreese."

Knox says about the position changes, "Since I had played fullback before, it wasn't that big a deal. I'll admit my heart is at I-back, but the most important thing is to help the team, so, it doesn't really matter which position I play."

There was a cultural difference between Nebraska and the bay area but one that Knox rather amusingly accepted. He claims, "The biggest difference was the weather. I had never known seasons before, you know, like spring, summer and particularly snow in the winter.

"Of course, there are more opportunities to get into trouble in a large-city area, but the people in Nebraska are very friendly. At first, the change was sort of wild but an enjoyable experience."

His first year at Nebraska, an atypical redshirt season, had its share of difficulty but Knox shakes his head and answers this philosophically, "Originally, my expectations were to play right away. But in a program like this, that wasn't very realistic. It didn't take long to accept the fact you had to wait your turn."

Harris tuned into Knox's first-year yearnings, saying, "Speculation was that Ty wasn't going to stick it out and might



return to the bay area and attend a community college. It seemed like every week somebody would ask me how Ty was doing."

Knox chops this story short by saying, "I don't know where those rumors came from about me going back home. My mom always preached to me that

once you make a decision, you do your best to stick with it. That's something I really believe in, too."

Although his extracurricular background is almost totally athletics, Knox did have some junior high school experience in the glee club and admits a longing to have added depth in the mu-

sical area. He says, "Something about Nebraska that was a surprise to me was so many parents have their kids take piano lessons and be in recitals, and things like that."

"I had two friends when they used to have the Lincoln Parents Club, and they were brothers, both learning to play the piano. I remember one day I asked them if they could teach me and they just laughed and said they had enough troubles learning themselves, let alone trying to teach me."

Knox lists fishing and working on cars as his two main hobbies. He's adapted to the freshwater fishing habits in Nebraska but has no car of his own to apply abilities he learned while working on his '65 Mustang back in Daly City.

"My dad taught me how to work on cars, and it got to the point where I was able to break down almost every part in that engine and put it back together," he remembers. "One time, I'd just finished rebuilding it and was gunning-up the motor to check the timing, and it blew a piston."

"I had to go back and break down that entire engine just to replace one piston. It was a pain, but to this very day there isn't a darn thing I can't remember on how to break down and assemble an engine for a '65 Mustang."

Knox and roommate Willie Griffin, senior defensive tackle, have a reliable and beneficial relationship. Knox says, "I think we've been good for one another. We've had times when one of us had to help the other through some tough times...like when Willie had some academic problems and temporarily lost his scholarship, we learned to work and share in paying our own bills."

Knox chuckles when he thinks of some of the harmless habits his roommate has that bug him, by claiming, "Willie chews tobacco...a habit he picked up just this year. I can't understand why he would want to do that."

He admits a somewhat laconic approach to Griffin causes the "bug factor" to work the other way. Knox smiles and says, "I bug him by getting on his case too much. I'm sure he wants me to keep my mouth shut sometimes but, hey, we've got a great understanding with each other. He's been a good room-



Knox scored four TDs against KSU to set a personal high.





mate and friend for four years."

When it comes to lifting weights, he sighs and admits, "They have to drag me in there but I know I benefit from it. I go mainly because it's required, but I'm doing something on a regular basis that I don't particularly enjoy, and I know it's one way to develop discipline."

"I think everyone could learn from things like this because at one time or another, you'll regularly confront this the rest of your life."

As for the future, Knox hopes it'll involve football, at least for a while. He adds, "As much as I have put into football, I hope I can make enough money from it to establish a business of my own. I'm not crazy 'bout the 9-to-5 rou-

**Knox's 92-yard TD run versus Missouri in 1986 was the longest ever by Nebraska against the Tigers.**

tine. I've done it, but I also know in my own business it might be a 9-to-midnight situation, too."

Rather prophetic words from a young man, who is helping Nebraska resolve some injury problems in the offensive backfield.

*Epilogue: If you don't think the "Frisco Connection" is a hot item both in Nebraska and California, this writer got a first-hand sampling of the Nebraska interest when one recent Sunday, while having dinner with friends in Lincoln, a most gracious hostess left the table no fewer than eight or 10 times to check the crowd noise from a televised 49er game just "to see how Roger (Craig) and Tom (Rathman) were doing." ■*



## Changed, But the Same

With 4:38 remaining in the Nebraska basketball team's 70-68 upset of Missouri at the Devaney Sports Center last season, Missouri's 6-foot-10, 204-pound Doug Smith blocked a shot by Rich King, caught the ball and drove the length of the court for a slam dunk.

"Which freshman center would you rather have?" one press box observer asked, rhetorically. The expected answer, of course, was Smith.

But that game had special significance for Nebraska fans, who, of course, made up the majority of 11,824 fans in the audience. It was, perhaps, the first real indication of the kind of impact King would have on Danny Nee's program.

In 18 minutes of action, the 7-2 King, a second-team Super-Stater from Omaha Burke High School, proved he could compete at the major college level. He scored eight points, six of them in the early minutes of the second half, and pulled down six rebounds in what was easily his best effort to that point in his brief career as a Cornhusker.

His only two points in the first half came when he ripped down one of four offensive rebounds. He blocked three shots, including one by All-American Derrick Chievous, and made one assist. He also had the dubious distinction of

being called for goaltending on a shot he almost tipped into his own basket.

The point is, he was involved.

Afterward, Nee shook King's hand and said: "You're in the Big Eight now."

Less than a year has passed since that night, and King is preparing for his sophomore season at Nebraska.

He's stronger, wiser and 15 pounds heavier, for all intents and purposes.

"Last year at this time, right at the beginning of the season, I probably weighed about the same (240)," says King. "But that was because I was gorging myself at the training table."

"It wasn't good weight."

Over the course of a freshman season during which he played in 29 games, including five as a starter, King lost weight. By the time the Cornhuskers returned from their spring exhibition tour of Australia and New Zealand, his weight had dropped to 225.

"Now, I'm up to about 240 again, but that's not from eating a lot. It's mostly through weight lifting and conditioning," he says.

Weight training "is still a priority. It will be until I leave here. I may sound like I'm contradicting myself because there's such a long way to go, but I've come a long way. I feel a lot stronger,

more conditioned for the later parts of practice. The stronger muscles get, the longer they can go."

King worked hard in the off-season, especially during the five weeks prior to the beginning of practice.

"I've really been trying to push it, do whatever I can to get ready," King says. "I know once the season starts, I'll lose some of the weight just because of the wear and tear."

That's to be expected, according to Nee. "I think Rich will play at around 235, somewhere in that range. You can see it on him. He's really getting strong, and it's helping his self-confidence," says Nee.

Strength and the confidence that comes with maturity should serve King well in his second collegiate season.

But he still has a lot to learn.

"Rich doesn't realize how good he can be with sufficient work," says assistant coach Arden Reid, who works with the Cornhuskers' big men.

"Sometimes, Rich doesn't understand what he's capable of. He's got a lot of God-given talent. He's got great eye-hand coordination. He's very mobile and very unselfish. If somebody's open, he sees them. He's got great vision."

As a result, King "is fun to play with," Reid says. "If you throw the ball in to him and move, you know you're going to get it back."

King's an exceptional passer, a skill not usually associated with someone his height. Reid compares him to former Vanderbilt All-American Will Purdue, selected in the first round of last year's National Basketball Association draft by the Chicago Bulls.

Purdue was the 11th player picked.

Like Purdue, "Rich has great hands," says Reid. "He doesn't have the scoring skills Purdue has. But then, neither did Purdue at that stage."

"It just takes time."

Although King is the tallest player in the Big Eight Conference this season, and the tallest Cornhusker ever, he's not a traditional center.

"You can't categorize Rich King as a



**Danny Nee has been impressed with King's passing ability.**



low-post, back-to-the-basket player," Nee says, comparing him to the Los Angeles Lakers' ageless Kareem Abdul-Jabbar. "He's a finesse center.

"Rich is very mobile. He isn't a low-box, kill-'em type player.

"The fans may have to get used to that. We're designing offenses to complement his style of play."

Nee also compares King to 7-4 Rik Smits, the second player picked in the NBA draft, from Marist. Smits can move up and down the court and shoot.

"I think those are the centers of the future," Nee says.

"If you can't run, I don't think you can play this game anymore. King has that kind of mobility and skill. He can do more with a basketball, for a big kid, than anyone I've ever seen."

King, who was named to the Big Eight's All-Freshman team, also has excellent shooting range.

"He's got a good 15-foot jump shot," Nee says, adding with a smile, "but he better not take it too much."

King takes a 3-point shot now and then during practice, but he's yet to attempt one in a game. He hit on 56 of 108 2-pointers as a freshman (51.9 percent) and 24-of-34 free throws (70.6 percent) in averaging 4.7 points per game.

He averaged 2.9 rebounds.

Both statistics improved dramatically on the eight-game Australian tour. King scored in double figures in every game, averaging 20.3 points and 8.4 rebounds.

He had highs of 26 points, twice, and 12 rebounds, and he shot 65 percent.

King has always been able to shoot and handle the ball. "Growing up, since I was always taller than everyone and usually the better basketball player because of that when we played pick-up games, I'd say, 'Give me the ball,' and I could pretty much do whatever I wanted with it," he says.

Until he got to Burke High, what he wanted to do were things guards do.

King shot from what is now 3-point range. "I played constantly, but I never tried to be a center, never went down and posted up," he says.

"I tried to take the ball up the court and tried to make fancy passes."

Actually, King never stopped doing those things, even after he got to Burke,

even when he was a senior.

King claims he kept his playground skills sharp by playing regularly with friends, most often Rodney Monroe from Millard North High School and Derek Lodwig from Elkhorn High.

Monroe now plays at Kearney State College, and Lodwig is playing in junior college, according to King.

"Every night, I swear, we'd go to the YMCA or somewhere and play basketball. I probably should have been studying instead of being out trying to shoot 3-pointers and messing around," King says. "But that helped, too."

When the high school basketball season began, King says he'd often meet Monroe and Lodwig after practice and play some more. During practice, Burke coach John Johnette would "make me be a center. He'd have me doing center stuff," says King, who weighed barely 215 at the time. "Then I'd go out and get two or three hours of trying to be a guard.

"In a way, I think that was good because I'm able to do some of that stuff now. More and more, when you look around the country, you see the J.R. Reids, Danny Mannings and Doug Smiths. It's no big deal to see big guys shooting 17-footers or dribbling the ball when they have to, or passing.

"I think that's what coaches are looking for (in a big man)."

King, who made only one other recruiting visit (to Kansas), is definitely what Nee was looking for in a big man. Nebraska's third-year head coach has called him the key to the Cornhuskers' program since the day he signed a letter-of-intent.

Though some consideration was given to redshirting him a year ago, King seems to be right on schedule.

This season, "we'd like Rich to hit the defensive boards and be more intimidating, as far as blocking shots," says Reid.

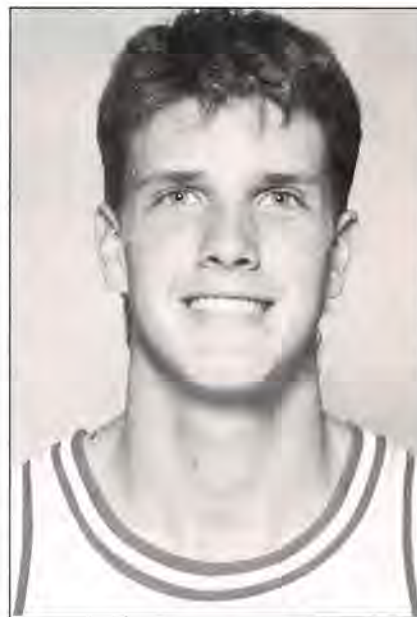
King was second on the team in blocked shots last season with 20, the fourth-best total in school history.

He led the team in dunks with 14.

Competing in the Big Eight "is a lot more physical than high school, obviously," says King.

But it wasn't a whole lot more physical than he expected it to be.

"I was pretty well warned about it,"



**Rich King: Nebraska's big man with little-man moves.**

he says. "I knew it would be tough. I was really expecting to go against 10 Richard van Poelgeests every game. At times, it was a little worse than I thought, and at times, it wasn't as bad as I thought it would be.

"But I was warned."

The upset of Missouri, a "pounding-type team," was a good first test.

And he held up well.

With his increasing strength, King hasn't lost his ability to get up and down the court. That's ingrained.

"I think it's always been that way because I used to be really thin. I've never been a big, bulky kind of guy, especially in high school. I was very skinny. I had guys on my team who, although they were shorter than I was, could muscle me around. So I had to be more mobile," King says.

"I've put on weight, and I'm not so skinny now. But I still try to play the same way. I'm not a Michael Jordan, a gazelle or anything. I just try to combine my strength with mobility."

It's the wave of the future. ■



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Rod Henkel

## Defense Rests Its Case

THE BLACK SHIRTS PROVED THEY REALLY ARE GOOD,  
BUT MISSOURI DID THE SAME.

LINCOLN, Neb. — The Black Shirts earned their keep in Nebraska's 26-18 come-from-behind win against Missouri.

They kept the Cornhuskers within striking distance until the offense solved the Tigers' all-welcome, all-come defense. That wasn't until the second half.

Three times Missouri received the football inside NU's 39-yard line (once at the 4), and four other times the Tigers drove into Nebraska territory, but the Black Shirts allowed only one touchdown.

Missouri settled for Jeff Jacke field goals on four occasions (25, 32, 19, 51 yards).

Jacke's first three kicks put Missouri ahead 9-0, and his final boot gave the Tigers an 18-17 lead with 10:43 remaining in the game.

Nebraska fullback Bryan Carpenter raced over left guard for a 49-yard touchdown less than two and a half minutes later, giving the Huskers the lead for good.

Chris Drennan drilled a 23-yard field goal with 2:15 left to give the Cornhuskers breathing room, and Mike Croel's interception ended Missouri's final threat.

NU's defense saved one for the offense.

"Our defense played a tough game from start to finish," said NU's Lombardi and Butkus Trophies candidate Broderick Thomas. "The offense did a good job when it came time to. It came down to gut check today."

Nebraska's list of defensive stars was long.

Thomas made four unassisted tackles and five assists to move ahead of Outland/Lombardi winner Rich Glover, NU's superlative noseguard who placed third in the 1972 Heisman Trophy race. Thomas is now 10th on NU's total tackle



After Bryan Carpenter's late TD, Mizzou's upset bid fell short.

list with 218. He is also fourth on the unassisted tackle chart with 129 stops.

Current noseguard Lawrence Pete made 10 total tackles, including two for 11 yards of losses. Pete, "played as good a game as he ever has at Nebraska," said defensive coordinator Charlie McBride.

At his cornerback position, Charles Fryar made nine solo stops and recovered two fumbles.

Junior inside linebacker Chris Caliendo led Nebraska with 11 total tackles and an interception.

"It's not a one-man or two-man show around here," Thomas said. "Basically, everybody's putting in their 50 cents."

When Missouri drove to NU's 3-yard line at the end of the first quarter, strong safety Reggie Cooper threw Tiger quarterback Corey Welch for a 5-yard loss on third-and-two. Missouri opted for Jacke's first three-pointer.

Early in the second quarter, MU's Otis Smith sacked Nebraska quarterback Steve Taylor and recovered a fumble at the Huskers' 23. But Thomas and Willie Griffin, who made six tackles, each recorded a sack of Welch, and again Missouri settled for a field goal.

After Lee Johnson recovered another Taylor fumble at NU's 4 early in the third stanza, the Black Shirts allowed only 2 yards before Jacke booted his



19-yarder.

"That was very frustrating," said Welch on NU's defensive stands. "I have to give all the credit to Nebraska's defense. They played a good game today. We had them down there two or three times when we should have scored, but instead we came up with threes."

Missouri managed 156 yards rushing and 97 through the air, a total 114 yards less than its 367 yards-per-game average.

With Griffin and Pete getting two each, Nebraska recorded six sacks for a total loss of 33 yards.

"I thought the pass rush was much better today," said McBride, who gave

part of the credit to NU's secondary. "They couldn't find anybody to throw the ball to."

McBride went almost exclusively with his first-string players because of the closeness of the ball game.

"They didn't seem to be getting tired," he said. "Everybody else is mad at me."

The Black Shirts forced turnovers, five in all. "We caused a lot of good things to happen," Caliendo said. "I thought our defense played great."

A non-shutout did not matter this time.

"They have an outstanding offense. They have an outstanding team," Caliendo said. "I think 18 points (allowed) is great for them."

However, 18 points would have been enough for Missouri's third win of the season if Nebraska had continued its first-half offensive woes after intermission.

By using a blitzing defense, Missouri limited the Big Red to 15 total yards and a pair of first downs in the first two quarters.

"They were bringing everybody but the kitchen sink," said NU center Jake Young. "They blitzed a lot of people every time."

Husker I-back Ken Clark, after rushing for more than 200 yards in two consecutive games, carried 10 times for 23 yards the first half. He finished with 57 yards on 23 rushes.

Missouri defenders sacked Taylor twice before he could drop back and turn around.

"I thought we had Nebraska confused in the first half and we were really aggressive," said Missouri coach Woody Widenhofer.

Osborne agreed, calling the Tiger strategy similar to one used in 1981 when Nebraska, with quarterback Turner Gill, defeated MU, 6-0, in Columbia.

"They were blitzing from every angle, and I think they came with a full blitz probably 60 to 70 percent of the time today," Osborne said. "You're either going to have big plays or you're going to have nothing."

Big Red fans in the sellout crowd of 76,316 (a continuing NCAA record of 160 consecutive full houses) shouted at halftime that Osborne should throw the ball.



Steve Taylor ran for his life.

## SCORING SUMMARY

### Nebraska 26, Missouri 18

Missouri.....	3	3	9	3	— 18
Nebraska.....	0	0	17	9	— 26
Miss — FG Jacke 25.					
Miss — FG Jacke 32.					
Miss — FG Jacke 19.					
Neb — Millikan 82 pass from Taylor (Drennan kick).					
Neb — Knox 1 run (Drennan kick).					
Miss — Jones 3 run (Run failed).					
Neb — FG Drennan 29.					
Miss — FG Jacke 51.					
Neb — Carpenter 49 run (Run failed).					
Neb — FG Drennan 23.					

Attendance: 76,316



A few boos even circulated Memorial Stadium. Nebraska attempted only four passes the first half and nine for the game, primarily, Osborne said, because of a lack of time.

"You've got to get it off. You just can't go back and throw it," Osborne said. "Steve Taylor got blind-sided a few times because there are some plays where you just couldn't protect, and it's kind of like playing Russian Roulette.

"Through the first half, they won."

A team averaging 527 yards per game does not easily lose confidence in its offensive abilities, but even the Cornhuskers wondered.

They failed to penetrate Missouri's half of the field during the first 30 minutes and held the ball for six plays on their longest first-half possession.

"It was pretty frustrating that first half," Carpenter said. "They stopped us so many times. We maybe had doubts we could move the ball."

As a result of Nebraska's ineffective offense, punter John Kroeker got a workout.

The Henderson senior, who had punted only once in each of the Huskers' previous three games, averaged 41 yards on seven kicks against Missouri.

"I like to get a few, but I probably got a few more than I would like," he said. "From a punter's standpoint, the more you punt, the more you stay in the flow a little bit. It takes a little bit of pressure off knowing any particular kick is not your only kick of the day."

Kroeker punted five times the first half for a 45.4-yard average. With Nebraska owning a 17-15 edge early in the final period, however, Kroeker booted a 35-yarder from his end zone.

"You try to make it like every other punt," Kroeker said. "That's difficult to do (because) you know the importance of it. I tried too hard. I tried to kill it."

Knowing his hometown friends and family were going to honor him Saturday, Kroeker joked with NU receivers coach Ron Brown about possibly playing split end if he did not punt against Missouri.

"I at least would like to get one (punt) in for the community," Kroeker said. "It was apparent to me pretty early I was going to get a good workout."

Kroeker was needed less after inter-



**Broderick Thomas (89) and the Black Shirts got Nebraska pointed in the right direction.**

mission. A few blocking adjustments lessened the effectiveness of Missouri's blitz. Osborne spread the Tigers' defense "a little bit more" and the backs "were able to start reading the handoff."

Less than five minutes into the third quarter, though, Nebraska's total offense tumbled to minus 20 yards on two sacks of Taylor. By this time, Mizzou had extended its advantage to 9-0.

Nebraska recovered when Taylor scrambled and found tight end Todd Millikan on an 82-yard touchdown pass, NU's longest of the year.

During a period of 6:28 when nine fumbles or muffs occurred and the football changed hands five times, the Big Red took its first lead.

Fryar recovered a fumble at Missouri's 25, and Tyreese Knox scored from the 1-yard line three plays later. Taylor scrambled for a 24-yard gain prior to Knox's sixth touchdown of the season.

Two fumbles and turnovers later, the Tigers sustained their longest drive of

the day, an eight-play, 63-yard march.

Michael Jones regained the lead for Mizzou when he scored from the 3. A failed two-point attempt kept the Tigers' lead at 15-14 with 4:10 remaining in the third quarter.

Taylor connected with redshirt freshman split end Nate Turner for a 59-yard, third-down play to set up Drennan's 29-yard field goal.

Jacke gave the Tigers their final advantage, 18-17, with 10:43 remaining, but Carpenter scored the eventual game-winner on Nebraska's next possession. The junior from Olathe, Kan., broke past the line of scrimmage and raced to the end zone.

"It was just a read option and the line did a good job blocking and it was wide open in the secondary," Carpenter said. "I was surprised. I didn't know I could make it."

Missouri blitzed on Carpenter's touchdown run. "You live by the blitz. You die by the blitz," Young said. "We

Photo by John Bills



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# PLAYER OF THE WEEK

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## Caliendo Dominates MU

Nebraska's linebacking corps played a primary role in limiting Missouri's offense to 90 yards less than its per game average.

Junior Chris Caliendo, NU's starting weak side, inside linebacker, led all Black Shirts with 11 total tackles, nine

unassisted.

He became ramming partners with Missouri fullback Tommy Stowers.

"We were keying on him in the beginning," Caliendo said of Stowers, who made half of his 14 carries in the first quarter. "I just looked through the

guard to the fullback. Every time, it was taking me to the play."

Caliendo and Pat Tyrance have been battling each other for a starting spot, and, with Tyrance nursing an injury, Caliendo made the most of the opportunity.

The Husker from Brookfield, Wis., increased his season total to 32 tackles and made his first career interception against the Tigers.

Caliendo also sacked Missouri quarterback Corey Welch for a 1-yard loss.

He roamed the field from side to side.

"I was having a great time," Caliendo said. "That's the kind of game I like."


Because of the nature of the ball game, NU defensive coordinator Charlie McBride left his top unit on the field.

Caliendo was involved in plays not apparent in the statistics, and he recovered a fumble eventually ruled caused by the ground.

Caliendo says he plays the same whether he starts or comes off the bench.

"I just play football," he said. "When you read your keys and do things right, it just takes you to the ball."

Broderick Thomas, NU's All-American outside linebacker, made nine tackles, including one sack and inside linebacker LeRoy Etienne recorded six stops. Lawrence Pete totaled 10 tackles from his noseguard position. ■



**Chris Caliendo played the best game of his young career.**



hit it right."

Nebraska finished the game with 269 total yards. The Cornhuskers lost 79 yards rushing, 66 of which was credited to Taylor.

The Cornhuskers' senior quarterback passed for 153 yards, but finished with a net rushing total of minus 38 yards.

"It was a tough day playing quarterback," Taylor said. "There's going to be some days like that."

To Nebraska fans who booed the Cornhuskers, the game must have appeared as though the Big Red performed below par.

Cornhusker coaches and players, along with key members of the Missouri program, however, agreed the Tigers presented a bigger challenge than pre-game predictions indicated.

Nebraska improved to 8-1 and Missouri slipped to 2-5-1.

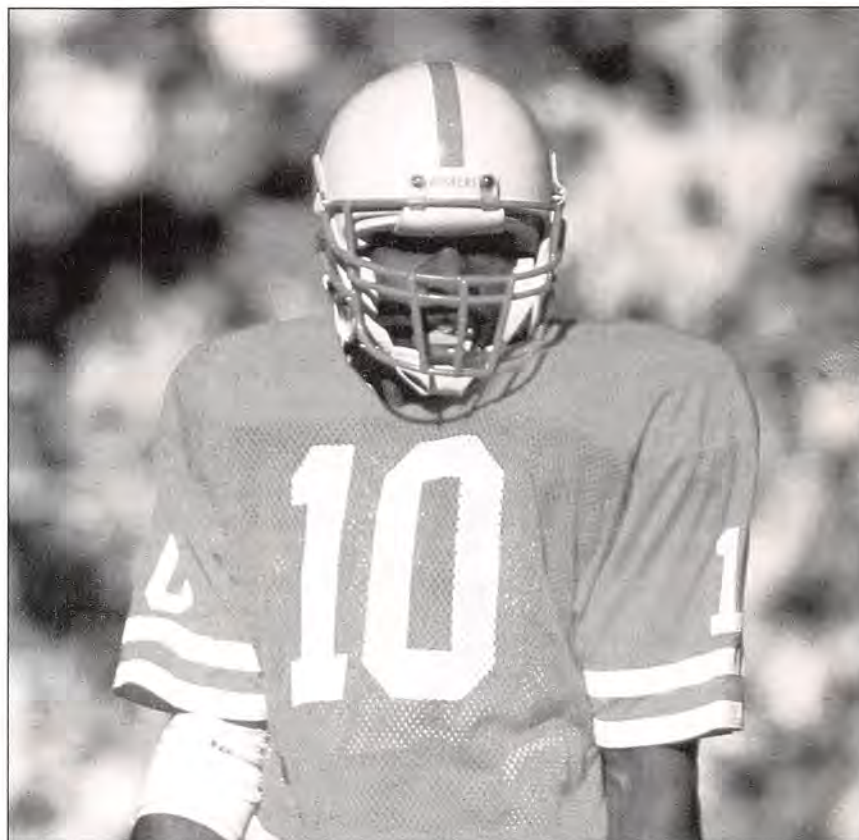
"Their record doesn't indicate how good they really are," said Young, who claimed a 34-point spread in favor of Nebraska "wasn't even within reality."

Caliendo could tell immediately that the Tigers meant business. "They came out smoking. We came out smoking. It was kind of like a dogfight. They're damn good."

Thomas added, "They weren't going to lay down just because we're Nebraska. That's how it is in the Big Eight. It's anybody's crown. It's no joke."

Neither were the Tigers Saturday.

Nor were the Black Shirts. ■



Charles Fryar stole the show, literally, against Missouri.

<b>SEASON RECAP</b>	8/27 A&M	9/3 USU	9/10 UCLA	9/24 ASU	10/1 UNLV	10/8 KU	10/15 OSU	10/22 KSU	10/29 MU	11/5 ISU	11/12 CU	11/9 OU	BOWL	SEASON AVERAGE
<b>First Downs</b>	19	34	21	29	26	38	28	32	9					26
<b>Yards Rushing</b>	201	421	260	441	444	547	570	479	116					386
<b>Yards Passing</b>	125	169	125	29	56	118	92	143	153					112
<b>Fumbles - Lost</b>	5-3	0-0	2-1	2-0	1-0	1-0	0-0	1-1	7-3					2-1
<b>Time of Possession</b>	60%	54%	44%	57%	59%	54%	53%	65%	48%					55%
<b>Third Down Conversions</b>	50%	50%	46%	45%	56%	40%	58%	63%	15%					47%
<b>Final Score</b>	23-14	63-14	28-41	47-16	48-6	63-10	63-42	48-3	26-18					45-18



A sputtering Nebraska offense against Missouri may have actually prompted the Black Shirts to perform better.

"It helped us motivationally," said NU defensive coordinator Charlie McBride. "It keeps the pressure on."

Missouri's Flex-Bone presented a few problems for Nebraska on passing situations.

When NU went to its dime defense, the Tigers had some success running.

The Black Shirts had trouble determining if Missouri was "going to pass it or going to run it," McBride said. The dime defends the pass, "it's not an option defense."

"If we're going to use it in the remaining games (against Colorado and Oklahoma), we have to work on the option part of it."

A wishbone offense is hard to simulate in practice "until you get in a game and see it and play it," McBride said.

Colorado, NU's opponent on Nov. 12, runs an offense somewhere between Missouri's and Oklahoma's. Iowa State will use multiple offenses next week.

"Each week our kids have to adjust to a whole new system," McBride said. "It's really hard on the defense."

The defensive effort against Missouri increased the Black Shirts' confidence, an ingredient McBride said was lacking.

"Maybe we needed this thing, defensively," he said. "I think it will help us."

A 26-point performance in the second half may benefit the Huskers' offensive unit as well.

"It has helped us come together a little bit more," said center Jake Young. "I think it's going to be good for us."

"Everybody thinks we came out with big heads. I don't think we did. We came out and played a tough game."

Unusual Nebraska statistics surfaced following the 26-18 win against Missouri.

The Cornhuskers gained nine first downs, less than half of their previous season low of 19 against Texas A&M.

Three plays accounted for more than two-thirds of Nebraska's total offense of 269 yards.

Quarterback Steve Taylor hit Todd Millikan on an 82-yard touchdown pass and found Nate Turner for a 59-yard non-scoring completion. Fullback

Bryan Carpenter scampered 49 yards for a touchdown in the fourth quarter.

The 116 rushing yards against Missouri represented Nebraska's season low, 85 less than NU's previous low of 201 versus A&M.

After converting on 53.5 percent of their third-down plays in their first eight games, the Huskers were successful on only two of 13 third downs against Missouri.

Missouri coach Woody Widenhofer's career record at Missouri dropped to 11-29-1.

"Missouri, traditionally over the years, plays Nebraska pretty tough," Widenhofer said. "Our kids aren't intimidated by Nebraska even though they're a great football team and are very well coached. If we wouldn't have turned it over, I think it would have been a little bit different game."

Nebraska fans booed the Cornhuskers as they exited the field at halftime. Osborne heard fans telling him to throw more and Taylor heard one man say, "Put Gdowski in."

"I'm not down on the fans," said Osborne. "I appreciate the fans coming. Those guys that were booing us at the half don't understand what they're seeing. They've seen 27 years of good football, and they're used to it, but when it comes down to that, I've got no use for it. It was a heckuva ball game."

Saturday's game represented the 160th consecutive sellout in Memorial Stadium, a continuing NCAA record. Nebraska's sellout string began with the Nov. 3, 1962, Missouri game, when the 6-0 Huskers drew 36,501 in pre-expansion Memorial Stadium to see the Tigers hand Bob Devaney his first loss at NU, 16-7.

Missouri also handed Osborne his first career coaching loss, 13-12, at Columbia in 1973. Nebraska leads the 82-game series, 47-32-3, and has now won 10 straight from Missouri since a 35-31 Tiger win in Lincoln in the last regular-season game in 1978 knocked the Huskers out of the national-title picture.

Offensive linemen remained healthy during the Missouri game, with the exception of left guard Andy Keeler, who left with an injured ankle.

John Roschal, a junior from Houston,

replaced Keeler and received Young's praise for his play.

Outside linebacker Broderick Thomas, who increased his career tackle totals to 128 unassisted (4th on NU's all-time list) and 218 total (10th all-time), answered a reporter's questions about relative silence in 1988 compared to his more outspoken days in 1986-87.

"I'm having fun," said Thomas. "I'm outspoken in the locker room. I think it's more exciting when I don't tell them what's going to happen."

"My Bike helmet did my talking today. My Bike is all scratched up right now."

Taylor credited the Nebraska coaching staff for making the adjustments which allowed the Cornhuskers to win.

"That's why I came to Nebraska; great coaching," he said. "I think other teams would have lost today."

With his 82-yard TD reception, Millikan brought his career touchdown total to 13, a new Nebraska tight end record.

Millikan's touchdown against Missouri came after Taylor scrambled to avoid a rush.

"It wasn't even intended for me," Millikan said. "I was a decoy. I was just supposed to hold that corner downfield so he wouldn't come up on the primary receiver. Steve just happened to see me when he was scrambling around and I came open."

Carpenter was the only Husker offensive player to set personal season highs when he rushed for 96 yards on 12 carries, including the 49-yard touchdown. His previous high was 76 yards against Oklahoma State, including a 46-yard run.

Osborne continues to put distance between himself and Joe Paterno of Penn State when it comes to career winning percentage. At .812, Osborne's mark is No. 2 behind Barry Switzer of Oklahoma, but the Husker coach started 1988 in third place, a hair behind Paterno, who has slipped dramatically because of a 4-4 record. Even if Nebraska loses its next two games, Osborne and Switzer will meet on Nov. 19 as the two winningest coaches in college football.

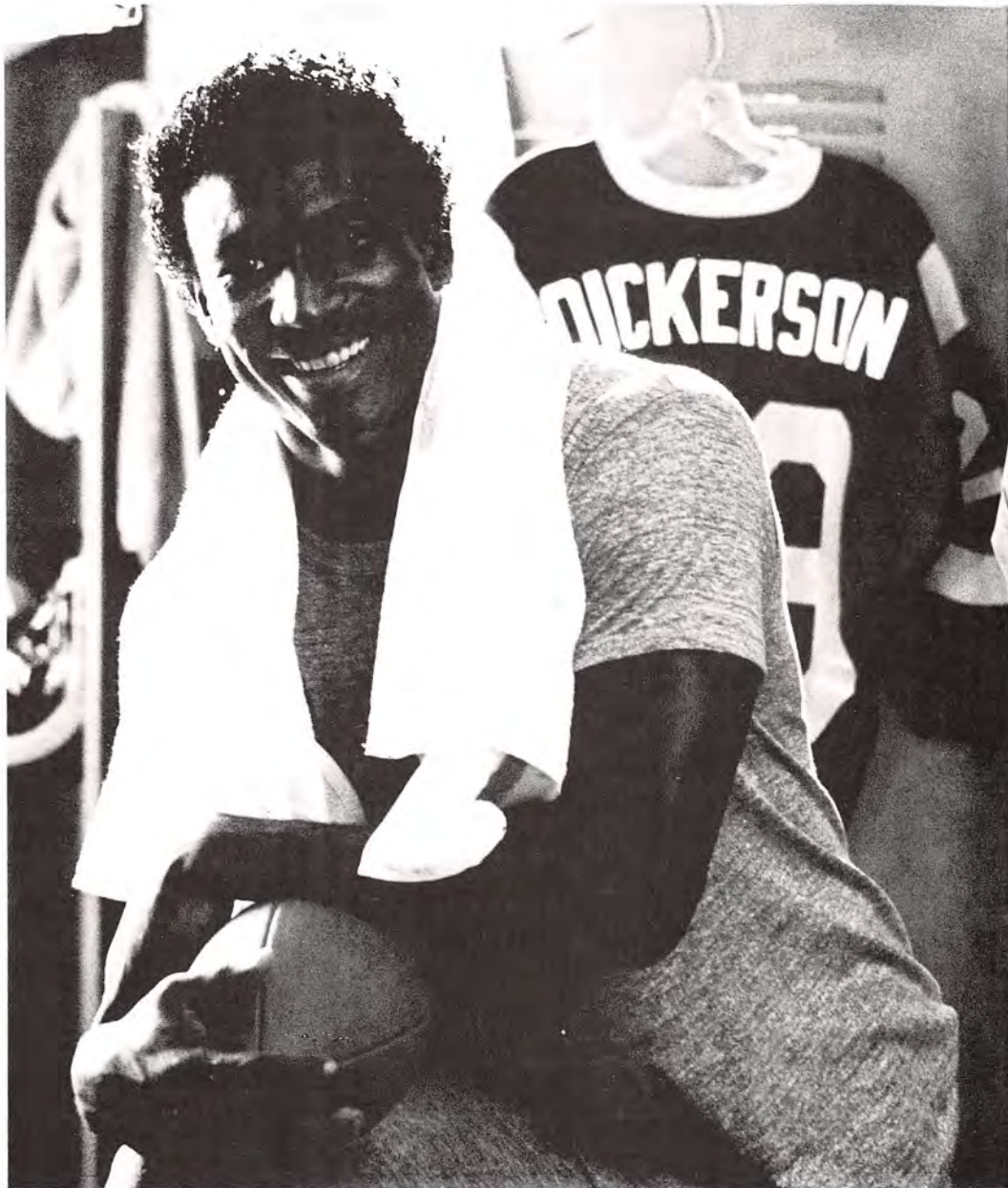
**On the Cover:** Kent Morgan Olsen photographed Broderick Thomas in action. ■



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# STATISTICS

## RUSHING

	Texas A&M	Utah St.	UCLA	Arizona St.	UNLV	Kansas	Oklahoma St.	Kansas St.	Missouri	Iowa St.	Colorado	Oklahoma	Total
<b>Clark</b>	20-80-1-4.0	12-90-1-7.5	12-46-0-3.8	22-122-1-5.5	14-79-3-5.6	10-64-0-6.4	27-256-3-9.5	20-225-1-11.3	23-57-0-2.5				160-1,019-10-6.4
<b>Taylor</b>	18-34-0-1.9	9-74-2-8.2	14-95-1-6.8	17-116-1-6.8	11-67-0-6.1	8-43-2-5.4	11-140-3-12.7	11-34-0-3.1	13-(38)-0-(2.9)				112-565-9-5.0
<b>Knox</b>		5-50-0-10.0	3-8-0-2.7	4-26-0-6.5	8-57-0-7.1	6-120-1-20.0	10-53-0-5.3	19-108-4-5.7	2-4-1-2.0				57-426-6-7.5
<b>Carpenter</b>	3-4-0-1.3	4-30-0-7.5	5-47-0-9.4	7-26-0-3.7	5-59-1-11.8	2-33-1-16.5	7-76-0-10.8	6-18-0-3.0	12-96-1-8.0				51-389-3-7.6
<b>Rodgers</b>	10-65-0-6.5	7-19-1-2.7	2-12-0-6.0	13-113-1-8.7	11-50-1-4.5								43-259-3-6.0
<b>Flowers</b>		3-18-0-6.0		2-14-0-7.0	3-37-0-12.3	13-80-1-6.1		8-41-0-5.1					29-190-1-6.6
<b>Joseph</b>		3-34-1-11.3		2-15-1-7.5	1-22-0-22.0	12-77-1-6.4		2-23-0-11.5					20-171-3-8.6
<b>Lewis</b>		4-15-0-3.8	1-9-0-9.0	2-1-0-0.5	3-16-0-5.3	10-50-1-5.0	2-5-0-2.5	3-18-0-6.0					25-114-1-4.6
<b>Gdowski</b>		6-40-1-6.7		1-(2)-0-(2.0)	1-19-0-19.0	5-42-0-8.4							13-99-1-7.6
<b>Brinson</b>	1-1-0-1.0	5-30-0-6.0	3-40-0-13.3	2-(7)-0-(7.0)	1-2-0-2.0		1-1-0-1.0	4-8-0-2.0	2-(3)-0-(1.5)				19-72-0-3.8
<b>Bell</b>	1-(5)-0-(5.0)				1-(4)-0-(4.5)	4-33-0-8.3	1-38-0-38.0						7-62-0-8.9
<b>Schmidt</b>	6-22-0-3.7	2-13-1-6.5	1-3-0-3.0										9-38-1-4.2
<b>Dunlap</b>				1-8-0-8.0	1-24-0-24.0								2-32-0-16.0
<b>Coleman</b>		1-3-0-3.0		1-9-0-9.0	2-5-0-2.5								4-17-0-4.3
<b>Harchelroad</b>		1-5-0-5.0				1-3-0-3.0		1-4-0-4.0					3-12-0-4.0
<b>Devall</b>					1-9-0-8.0								1-9-0-8.0
<b>Worden</b>		1-0-0-0.0			1-0-0-0.0	2-2-0-2.0							4-2-0-0.5
<b>Baldwin</b>					1-2-1-2.0								1-2-1-2.0
<b>Gregory</b>							1-1-0-1.0						1-1-0-1.0
<b>Team Total</b>	59-201-1-3.4	63-421-7-6.7	41-260-1-6.3	74-441-4-5.9	65-444-6-6.8	73-547-7-7.5	60-570-6-9.5	74-479-5-6.5	52-116-2-2.2				561-3479-39-6.2
<b>Opp. Total</b>	37-185-2-5.0	22-19-0-0.9	47-233-1-4.9	38-116-1-3.1	23-58-0-2.5	38-77-0-2.0	44-208-4-4.7	20-44-0-2.2	55-156-1-2.8				324-1096-9-3.4

(Legend: Attempts-Yards-TDs-Average)

## PASSING

	Texas A&M	Utah St.	UCLA	Arizona St.	UNLV	Kansas	Oklahoma St.	Kansas St.	Missouri	Iowa St.	Colorado	Oklahoma	Total
<b>Taylor</b>	22-11-0-125-1	10-7-0-143-1	29-14-3-125-2	10-3-1-29-1	10-6-0-56-0	9-7-0-78-1	11-6-1-92-2	11-6-0-129-1	9-3-0-153-1				121-63-5-930-10
<b>Gdowski</b>		3-2-0-19-1				3-2-0-31-0		1-1-0-14-0					7-5-0-64-1
<b>Joseph</b>		1-1-0-7-0				2-1-1-9-0		1-0-1-0-0					4-2-2-16-0
<b>Total</b>	22-11-0-125-1	14-10-0-169-2	29-14-3-125-2	10-3-1-29-1	10-6-0-56-0	14-10-1-118-1	11-6-1-92-2	13-7-1-143-1	9-3-0-153-1				132-70-7-1010-11

(Legend: Attempts-Completions-Interceptions-Yards-TDs)

## RECEIVING

	Texas A&M	Utah St.	UCLA	Arizona St.	UNLV	Kansas	Oklahoma St.	Kansas St.	Missouri	Iowa St.	Colorado	Oklahoma	Total
<b>Gregory</b>	4-44-0	1-13-0	5-57-1	3-29-1	2-21-0	1-11-0	2-32-0		1-12-0				19-219-2
<b>Millikan</b>	2-33-1	1-8-0	2-9-1			3-57-1	3-52-2	2-52-0	1-82-1				14-293-6
<b>Brinson</b>	1-8-0	1-34-0	3-15-0		3-28-0		1-8-0	2-55-1					11-148-1
<b>Bell</b>	1-9-0	3-77-1	1-17-0			2-26-0							7-129-1
<b>Turner</b>	2-23-0		1-5-0		1-7-0	1-9-0		1-19-0	1-59-0				7-122-0
<b>Clark</b>		1-13-0	2-22-0			2-4-0							5-39-0
<b>Worden</b>		2-18-0						1-14-0					3-32-0
<b>Flowers</b>						1-11-0							1-11-0
<b>Kratzenstein</b>	1-8-0												1-8-0
<b>Devall</b>		1-6-1											1-6-1
<b>Carpenter</b>								1-3-0					1-3-0
<b>Totals</b>	11-125-1	10-169-2	14-125-2	3-29-1	6-56-0	10-118-1	6-92-2	7-143-1	3-153-1				70-1010-11

(Legend: Catches-Yards-Tds)

## TACKLES — LINEMEN

	Texas A&M	Utah St.	UCLA	Arizona St.	UNLV	Kansas	Oklahoma St.	Kansas St.	Missouri	Iowa St.	Colorado	Oklahoma	Total
<b>Griffin</b>	3-1-4; 0-0	2-1-3; 1-1	3-2-5; 0-0	4-1-5; 1-1	3-1-4; 0-0	1-1-2; 0-0	5-1-6; 2-11	1-0-1; 0-0	4-2-6; 2-12				26-10-36; 6-25
<b>Pete</b>		2-0-2; 1-8	5-0-5; 0-0	3-2-5; 1-12	2-1-3; 0-0	1-2-3; 0-0	3-2-5; 0-0		7-3-10; 2-11				23-10-33; 4-31
<b>Wells</b>	0-1-1; 0-0	0-1-1; 0-0	0-1-1; 0-0	1-1-2; 1-4	1-1-2; 0-0	0-3-3; 1-4	3-2-5; 0-0	1-2-3; 1-8	5-2-7; 0-0				11-14-25; 3-16
<b>Brungardt</b>	1-1-2; 1-7	1-1-2; 0-0	6-0-6; 0-0	1-1-2; 0-0		1-1-2; 1-1							10-4-14; 2-8
<b>Murray</b>	3-1-4; 1-1	2-2-4; 0-0		0-1-1; 0-0		0-1-1; 0-0							5-5-10; 1-1
<b>Sims</b>				0-2-2; 0-0	1-0-1; 1-8	0-1-1; 0-0		0-1-1; 0-0					1-4-5; 1-8
<b>Monarrez</b>		0-1-1; 0-0	0-1-1; 0-0		1-0-1; 0-0	0-2-2; 0-0							1-4-5; 0-0
<b>Edgren</b>		1-0-1; 0-0			0-1-1; 0-0			0-1-1; 0-0					1-2-3; 0-0
<b>Valladao</b>	0-2-2; 1-1												0-2-2; 1-1

(Legend: Unassisted tackles-Assisted tackles-Total Tackles; Tackles for loss-Yards lost)



## TACKLES — LINEBACKERS

	Texas A&M	Utah St.	UCLA	Arizona St.	UNLV	Kansas	Oklahoma St.	Kansas St.	Missouri	Iowa St.	Colorado	Oklahoma	Total
Thomas	6-8-14; 1-1	5-2-7; 3-23	8-3-11; 1-4	5-5-10; 1-2	3-1-4; 1-14	2-6-8; 1-2	4-4-8; 0-0	1-2-3; 1-7	4-5-9; 1-9				38-36-74; 10-62
Etienne	6-5-11; 1-1	3-1-4; 0-0	8-1-9; 0-0	5-2-7; 0-0		3-3-6; 0-0	6-2-8; 1-4	1-3-4; 1-5	3-3-6; 1-4				35-20-55; 4-14
Tyrance	2-2-4; 0-0	4-1-5; 0-0	6-2-8; 0-0	0-3-3; 0-0	2-0-2; 0-0	0-2-2; 1-4	2-2-4; 0-0	3-1-4; 0-0					19-13-32; 1-4
Mills	4-2-6; 0-0	0-1-1; 0-0	1-1-2; 1-5	2-1-3; 1-2	1-1-2; 0-0	3-4-7; 1-4	2-1-3; 0-0	3-2-5; 0-0	2-3-5; 0-0				18-16-34; 3-11
Jobman	3-0-3; 0-0	2-1-3; 0-0	3-1-4; 0-0	1-2-3; 0-0	1-2-3; 0-0	1-1-2; 0-0	1-3-4; 0-0	1-2-3; 0-0					13-12-25; 0-0
Caliendo		1-0-1; 0-0		1-1-2; 0-0	3-0-3; 0-0	4-1-5; 0-0	3-5-8; 0-0	4-0-4; 0-0	9-2-11; 1-1				25-9-34; 1-1
Marco	1-2-3; 0-0		3-2-5; 0-0	2-0-2; 1-1	1-2-3; 0-0	1-2-3; 0-0	1-1-2; 0-0	1-0-1; 1-8	2-1-3; 0-0				12-10-22; 2-9
Croel	2-0-2; 0-0	2-3-5; 1-6		3-0-3; 0-0	1-0-1; 0-0	2-3-5; 0-0	1-0-1; 0-0	1-0-1; 0-0	1-0-1; 0-0				13-6-19; 1-6
Hagge		1-1-2; 0-0		4-0-4; 0-0	1-2-3; 0-0	3-0-3; 0-0	1-0-1; 0-0	1-2-3; 1-2					10-3-13; 1-2
Ferguson		1-0-1; 0-0		2-0-2; 0-0	0-1-1; 0-0		1-0-1; 0-0	1-2-3; 1-2					5-3-8; 1-2
Miller		1-0-1; 0-0			2-1-3; 0-0								3-1-4; 0-0
Buchanan					2-0-2; 0-0		1-0-1; 0-0						3-0-3; 0-0
Svelha		1-0-1; 0-0						2-0-2; 0-0					3-0-3; 0-0
Walker	1-0-1; 0-0	1-1-2; 0-0											2-1-3; 0-0

(Legend: Unassisted tackles-Assisted tackles-Total tackles; Tackles for loss-Yards lost)

## TACKLES — BACKS

	Texas A&M	Utah St.	UCLA	Arizona St.	UNLV	Kansas	Oklahoma St.	Kansas St.	Missouri	Iowa St.	Colorado	Oklahoma	Total
Cooper	4-4-8; 0-0	5-2-7; 1-0	4-2-6; 0-0	3-2-5; 1-0	3-2-5; 0-0	2-0-2; 0-0	6-4-10; 0-0	3-1-4; 1-1	4-0-4; 0-1				34-17-51; 3-2
Blazek	0-5-5; 0-0	1-1-2; 0-1	4-2-6; 0-1	4-2-6; 0-0	1-1-2; 0-0	0-0-0; 1-0	1-1-2; 0-1	2-2-4; 0-0					13-14-27; 1-3
Jackson	1-1-2; 1-1	1-1-2; 0-0	2-3-5; 1-0	3-1-4; 0-2		2-0-2; 0-0	5-1-6; 0-1	2-0-2; 1-0	4-0-4; 0-1				20-7-27; 3-5
Fryar	3-5-8; 0-1	2-0-2; 0-0	4-0-4; 0-0	1-0-1; 1-0			4-0-4; 1-1	1-0-1; 0-0	9-0-9; 0-0				24-5-29; 2-2
Lewis		2-0-2; 2-0	2-1-3; 1-0	2-2-4; 0-0	1-1-2; 0-0	1-2-3; 1-1	0-1-1; 0-0	2-1-3; 0-0					10-8-18; 4-1
Hicks	2-1-3; 0-0		1-0-1; 0-0	4-0-4; 0-0	3-0-3; 1-0		4-1-5; 1-0						14-2-16; 2-0
Sanders	1-0-1; 0-0	0-1-1; 0-0		1-0-1; 0-0	2-0-2; 0-0	1-3-4; 0-0	1-0-1; 0-0	2-3-5; 0-1					8-7-15; 0-1
Pickens	1-0-1; 0-0	1-1-2; 1-0		1-1-2; 0-0		2-2-4; 0-0		3-0-3; 0-1					8-4-12; 1-1
Custard		1-0-1; 0-0	2-0-2; 0-0			1-0-0; 0-0							4-0-4; 0-0
Crippen		1-0-1; 1-0						2-1-3; 0-0					3-1-4; 1-0
Vampola		2-1-3; 0-0											2-1-3; 0-0
Walker, C.					1-0-1; 0-0								1-0-1; 0-0
Settles		1-0-1; 0-0											1-0-1; 0-0
Carmer					1-0-1; 0-0								1-0-1; 0-0
Olson		1-0-1; 0-0											1-0-1; 0-0

(Legend: Unassisted tackles-Assisted tackles-Total tackles; Pass breakups-Interceptions)

## TEAM STATISTICS

	GAME		SEASON			GAME		SEASON	
	NU	MU	NU	OPP		NU	MU	NU	OPP
First downs	9	14	234	140	Total plays	61	70	693	569
First downs rushing	6	9	179	59	Net yards	269	253	4489	2529
First downs passing	2	4	43	62	Average gain per play	4.4	3.6	6.5	4.4
First downs penalty	1	1	12	19	Fumbles lost	7-3	5-3	18-8	18-8
Rushing attempts	52	55	561	324	Penalties - yards	7-47	3-26	64-541	54-440
Yards gained rushing	195	208	3695	1365	Interceptions - yards	3-11	0-0	15-323	7-58
Yards lost rushing	79	52	216	269	Punts	7	7	26	56
Net yards rushing	116	156	3479	1096	Punt average	41.0	37.3	41.1	37.9
Passing attempts	9	15	132	245	Kickoff returns - yards	6-109	6-77	35-695	53-850
Passes completed	3	6	70	112	Punt returns - yards	3-10	4-15	36-439	16-143
Passes intercepted	0	2	7	15	Possession time	28:58	31:02	33:06	26:54
Net yards passing	153	97	1010	1433	3rd down conversions	2-13	4-18	55-112	36-126

## BIG EIGHT CONFERENCE STANDINGS THROUGH GAMES OF OCTOBER 29

Team	CONFERENCE GAMES					ALL GAMES				
	Win	Loss	Tie	Pct.	PF	PA	Win	Loss	Tie	Pct.
Nebraska	4	0		1.000	200	73	8	1		.888
Oklahoma	4	0		1.000	185	59	7	1		.875
Oklahoma State	3	1		.750	177	132	6	1		.857
Colorado	2	2		.500	80	79	6	2		.750
Iowa State	2	2		.500	82	76	4	4		.500
Missouri	1	3		.250	94	117	2	5		.313
Kansas State	0	4		.000	75	215	0	8		.000
Kansas	0	4		.000	47	189	0	8		.000
										PF
										PA
										193
										105
										202
										147
										151
										252
										346
										320



Mike Babcock

## What the Doctor Ordered

It doesn't get any better than this.

That's how Willie Griffin saw it.

"This was about the best we've played," the senior defensive tackle said after Nebraska's 26-18 victory over Missouri last Saturday.

Griffin was speaking, specifically, of the Cornhuskers' Black Shirt defense, which often has been maligned this season. Unfairly, it seems.

If the Black Shirts hadn't been at their best against Missouri, Nebraska probably would have a second loss.

When the Cornhusker offense finally sputtered, the defense picked up the slack. "You don't ever want to see the offense slowed down," said defensive coordinator Charlie McBride.

"But it really keeps the pressure on, and we don't get to relax (on defense). It helps us, motivationally."

The team "didn't need a game like this," McBride said. "But it was good

for us (the Black Shirts). I just felt somewhere along the line, we needed to get some confidence."

And it couldn't have come at a better time, heading into the stretch run, with games against Iowa State, Colorado and Oklahoma remaining.

Missouri's offense, like the offenses of Colorado and Oklahoma, is based on wishbone principles, a fact that also ought to help Nebraska in its quest for the Big Eight championship.

The Cornhuskers haven't even had a share of the conference title since 1984, when they tied Oklahoma.

Anyway, "the hardest thing to do is work on the wishbone in practice," McBride said. "No matter what you do, you just don't have the scout team players who will do it. They don't do the same kind of work. And you don't have the same kind of people."

Containing the fullback is one key to

defending the wishbone. And Nebraska's scout squad didn't have anyone capable of giving the defense a true picture of how it would be trying to stop Tommy Stowers, Missouri's fullback.

"The wishbone is wild. Either you stop the fullback, or they're going to run wild on you," Griffin said.

Stowers carried 14 times and managed only 49 yards against Nebraska.

"I thought we did a good job against the fullback," said McBride.

"He's the heart of their offense as far as I'm concerned. The fullback is always going to make a couple of plays. Look at our guy. He beat it up all day in there and then all of a sudden, he goes 50 yards. So you just have to hope and pray when you're playing the wishbone, you can surround him."

Cornhusker fullback Bryan Carpenter broke a pair of runs in the fourth quarter of the Missouri game, a 49-yarder for Nebraska's final touchdown and a 21-yarder during the series culminating in the second of Chris Drennan's two field goals.

Stowers' longest run was 13 yards.

Missouri's longest run from scrimmage, in fact, was a 15-yarder by red-shirt freshman QB Corey Welch.

The Tigers finished with 156 yards rushing and 97 yards passing.

"We had a couple of breakdowns in the secondary and a couple at outside linebacker. We let them off the hook a couple of times on the option," said McBride, who was pleased, overall.

"It's just going to be a matter of concentrating, of not being satisfied with this (effort)," he said.

Missouri's offense gave the defense a glimpse of the wishbone. But every wishbone is different, according to McBride. In college football, every offense is different, in fact.

The Black Shirts have been criticized this season. People "talk about mistakes a lot," McBride said.

"But I don't think people realize in professional football, for example, everybody's a dropback passer."

NFL defenses don't have to concern themselves with as many different offen-



**Defensive coordinator Charlie McBride said the Black Shirts got their confidence back up.**



sive philosophies.

"They don't see options. They don't see all that baloney," he said.

"Each week our kids have to adjust to a whole new offense, a whole new concept. We have to prepare week-to-week, in three or four days. So it's really hard on them defensively."

When the Cornhuskers play Iowa State Saturday afternoon in Ames, Iowa, "we're going to see who knows what" offensively. Jim Walden, the Cyclone head coach, has one of the most diversified attacks in the country.

And he's willing to gamble.

Then, the Black Shirts must contend with Colorado's wishbone.

The Buffaloes often don't line up in a standard wishbone set, and they pass more than Oklahoma but less than Missouri. "They put you to sleep with their options and then the option pass. Things like that," McBride said.

And Oklahoma, of course, has its traditional wishbone. The Sooners line up and "hammer and tong you."

The Cornhuskers can play better defensively, according to McBride.

Missouri occasionally was able to exploit Nebraska's "dime" package, designed for passing situations, with "their quarterback draw and things like that," he said. "The same thing happened to us against Texas A&M."

It's understandable. But even though the Cornhuskers use the dime alignment on obvious passing downs, "we have people with option responsibilities."

Except for the substitutions that are part of the dime defense, McBride went with his starters for most of the Missouri game. "We hardly substituted," he said.

The first-team players were happy. "Everybody else is mad," McBride said during the post-game interview.

The Black Shirts held up well, considering the lack of substitutions and the fact that Missouri had a significant edge in time of possession until late in the game. Nebraska's defense was on the field a lot.

But it didn't seem to tire.

"Willie Griffin wanted to go back in and be on the 'dime' team, and he's the guy I'm most worried about getting tired," McBride said.

Linebacker Chris Caliendo was the busiest Cornhusker defender, finishing

**Nebraska's next big challenge will be adjusting to the 'Bone offenses of Colorado and Oklahoma.**



with a team-high 11 tackles, nine of them unassisted. He sacked Welch once and intercepted a pass.

But "I really wasn't too tired," the junior from Brookfield, Wis., said. "Maybe my adrenaline was pumping."

Senior noseguard Lawrence Pete was credited with 10 tackles, seven unassisted, and two sacks, an effort McBride called Pete's best at Nebraska.

Outside linebacker Broderick Thomas and cornerback Charles Fryar each were credited with nine tackles.

The Cornhuskers had six sacks, a statistic for which the secondary deserved some of the credit.

"We did a good job in our coverage," said McBride. "That's what got us the sacks. They couldn't find anybody to throw the ball to."

Nebraska intercepted two passes, broke up four others, blocked a punt and forced five fumbles, recovering three. The defense also could have contributed a touchdown — Fryar caught a fumble on a kickoff and returned it into the end zone — but the play was called back because of a personal foul penalty on

linebacker LeRoy Etienne.

"We just can't keep having that," McBride said. "We keep telling them. But they're pretty high-strung kids. We've got some guys who are pretty wired up out there."

And defense is played with emotion.

The Black Shirts played with a lot of emotion against Missouri, according to Caliendo. "We were pretty keyed up," he said. "We were ready for it."

"We played as a unit. We played together. I think this was as well as the defense has played all season."

Thomas agreed with his teammates.

"It was 60 minutes of top-notch endurance. I think our defense did a great job," Thomas said.

"We played a tough game from start to finish. It came down to gut check time, and we found out what we had. That's what you like to know. I don't want to go into the final game of the season and not have a gut check."

He wasn't satisfied, necessarily.

But he was pleased.

It was a good feeling. It doesn't get much better than this. Right Willie? ■



# Huskers to Rout ISU

**Jeff Conner**, WOI-TV, Ames, Iowa: "I would certainly expect Nebraska to win this game. If you compare the talent of both squads, Nebraska is an overwhelming favorite. It would take the game of their lives for Iowa State to beat the Huskers, but Coach Walden is the master of unusual plays and formations, so I think it won't be a total blowout. Let's say **Nebraska will win by 30 points.**"

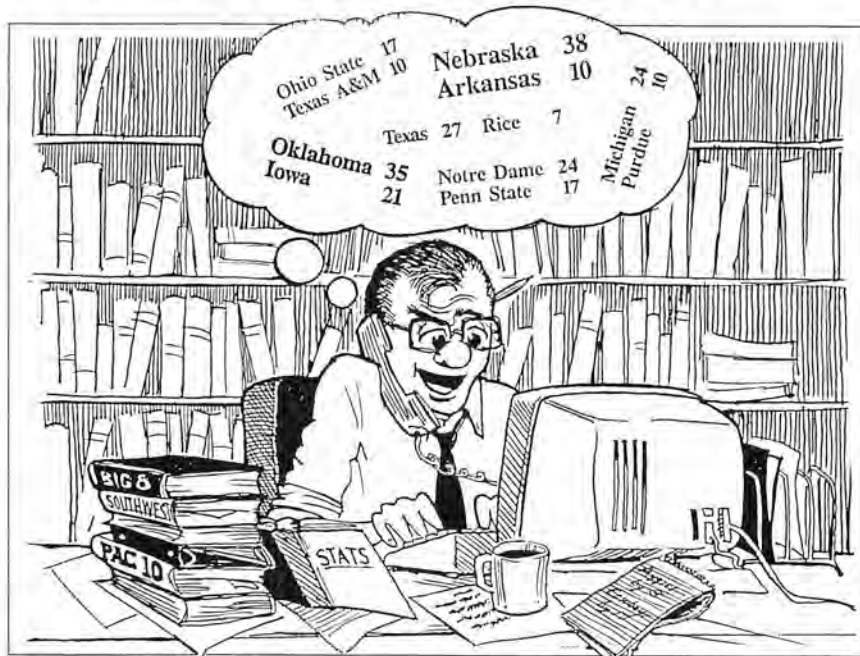
"Joe Henderson will be a big factor for the Cyclones. It's so hard to tell about Iowa State. They're very unpredictable. The Cyclone defense will have to contain the Husker running attack. Playing in Ames will motivate Iowa State, but they still won't win this game."

**David Sinykin**, KAAL-TV, Austin, Minn.: "It's really funny that Iowa State fans were talking about a bowl before the season started. The Cyclones came very close to losing to Northern Iowa and Nebraska is so much better than Northern Iowa could ever be. Steve Taylor is an excellent athlete. He can hurt you in so many ways. With the athletes that Nebraska has, it is hard to think of Iowa State winning this game."

"Henderson has done well so far for Iowa State, but Nebraska should be able to shut him down. This is the game of the year for the fans in Ames. It's too bad that Iowa State doesn't have a prayer in this game. **Nebraska is going to win by 21 points, at least.**"

**Jim Albracht**, WQAD-TV, Moline, Ill.: "Nebraska's defense is awesome. They shut down a very good quarterback against Kansas State. Iowa State plays good against average teams, but Nebraska is nowhere near average. The Cyclone quarterback situation is a very touchy subject and the offensive line isn't very big at all, so I can't see the Iowa State offense moving the ball very much. As far as talent is concerned, Nebraska has three teams compared to Iowa State having one."

"The Cyclones are confident and their schedule has favored them so far. They've played the weaker teams of the



Big Eight with the exception of Oklahoma. That helps build confidence. The crowd in Ames will help get Iowa State pumped up for this game. The fans are really into football this year. It's too bad Iowa State is two years away from being a decent team. **Nebraska 45, Iowa State 10.**"

**Mark Viviano**, KCRG-TV, Cedar Rapids, Iowa: "Nebraska will win this game, but it won't be a blowout as in years past, Iowa State is a better team. They stayed relatively close to Oklahoma in Norman, so that helped to build their confidence. Joe Henderson is a great running back, but Iowa State isn't afraid to pass the football. Iowa State has a decent defense, but Steve Taylor and the Husker running game will give them fits."

"Nebraska has played at UCLA, so the Iowa State crowd won't bother them at all. **I'll say Nebraska 38, Iowa State 14,** and that's being very conservative."

**Rick Seeger**, KIMT-TV, Mason City, Iowa: "The game being played in Ames won't make any difference to the Huskers. Iowa State has done alright this year, but this game won't even be close."

After watching the Huskers pulverize Oklahoma State, Iowa State realized just how strong the Huskers are this year. With Iowa State playing well so far, Nebraska can't exactly look past this game. That will kill Iowa State's chances of keeping this game relatively close."

"(Quarterback) Bret Oberg is still learning the system at Iowa State. Joe Henderson could be very important in this game, but Iowa State is probably going to have to throw the ball quite a bit because they will be so far behind. The score will take away Henderson's opportunity to have a big game. **Nebraska 49, Iowa State 10.**"

**Chuck Stevens**, KFOR-AM, Lincoln, Neb.: "Nebraska has had some very interesting games in the past at Ames, but Nebraska is simply too strong for the Cyclones this year. Jim Walden is doing a good job at Iowa State, but the number of players that he has will hurt him when he plays a team like the Huskers. Football is a game of depth and Nebraska has the clear advantage in that department."

"Even though this game is on the same day as the OU-OSU showdown



in Stillwater, you won't see Nebraska watching the scoreboard. They will have their minds on the Cyclones and shutting down Joe Henderson. Other games don't distract Nebraska at all. **I'll say Nebraska will win this game, 40-14."**

**Marty McIntire**, KAWL-AM, York, Neb.: "I think that Iowa State will cause Nebraska more problems than a lot of Husker fans do. The Cyclones are an up and coming team and they are improving quite a bit, but they just don't have the depth to compete with a powerhouse like Nebraska. If Henderson had a better offensive line, like Barry Sanders does at Oklahoma State, he would play a big role in this game. Unfortunately for Iowa State, he doesn't.

"Playing in Ames has caused the Huskers some problems in the past, but not this year. Nebraska will worry about the outcome of the OU-OSU game on the way back to Lincoln. I'm not good at predicting scores, but I'll say **the Huskers will win by a comfortable**

**margin."**

**Kent Pavelka**, KFAB-AM, Omaha, Neb.: "I can't see that playing in Ames will bother Nebraska at all, unless of course the game is closer than everybody expects. I can see Jim Walden mixing up the plays quite a bit because Iowa State can't beat the Huskers by just running the ball. Oberg is a pretty good quarterback and, if the Cyclone offensive line can block the Black Shirt defensive line, Iowa State's running game could pay off for them. Joe Henderson is a threat every time that he touches the football. **I think that Nebraska is at least three touchdowns better than the Cyclones, even in Ames."**

**Huskers Illustrated:** "The month of November always signals the beginning of the 'Second Season' for the Huskers. Colorado and Oklahoma always lay in wait to challenge the Huskers for the Big Eight crown. This shall be a mouth of Big Eight

showdowns as Oklahoma and Oklahoma State tangle on Nov. 5, Colorado heads for Lincoln on Nov. 12, and the Huskers travel to Oklahoma on Nov. 19. So, does this game between the Huskers and Iowa State really matter? This game scares some Husker fans for two reasons. First, Ames has always been a snakepit for Nebraska and, secondly, Nebraska might look ahead to the Buffs and Sooners. These two things hold the key to the amount of points that will separate Nebraska and Iowa State.

"Iowa State has improved itself, but they still remain a member of the Little Six. Tom Osborne may consider this game as important as the Colorado and Oklahoma games, but it won't be close at all. Hurricane Gilbert smashed the Mexican coastline, but Cyclone Henderson won't even scratch the Black Shirt defense. Not this year, Iowa State. **We'll say Nebraska 52, Iowa State 7."** ■

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# Iowa State Cyclones

For Iowa State and Coach Jim Walden, success may be around the corner. Not right around the corner, but there are signs of life in Ames.

After a slow start — the Cyclones dropped three of their first four games — Walden's bunch finds itself with a respectable 4-4 record, with wins over Tulane and Missouri and good battles against Iowa and Colorado. ISU hung tough against the Hawkeyes before falling short in the waning minutes.

There have been disappointments as well, like a 35-0 drubbing at the hands of Baylor, a rout by Oklahoma and a lackluster performance in a 20-17 win over Northern Iowa.

It's no secret the Cyclones are not as talented as some of their Big Eight counterparts, but their cupboard is by no means bare. Senior running back Joe Henderson may not be a Barry Sanders or Eric Bienenmy, but he has the ability to make some big plays, such as his 73-yard touchdown run against Northern Iowa. Against Missouri, he carried the ball 25 times for 125 yards. He also ran for 141 yards and scored a school-



Receiver Dennis Ross

record five touchdowns against Kansas. It was the third straight time Henderson had rushed for over 100 yards.

When the Cyclones' starting quarterback, Derek DeGennaro, injured his knee in the preseason, Bret Oberg responded nicely, throwing for over 800 yards so far this year. What could hurt

Iowa State against Nebraska is the lack of size in the Cyclones' offensive line, which should allow the Black Shirts to pressure Oberg.

Defensively, ISU has a few standouts who have drawn some notice in the Big Eight this season. Middle linebacker Mike Shane and weak side linebacker Anthony Hoskins are perhaps the strength of ISU's defense. Shane's 19 tackles against Missouri earned him Big Eight Defensive Player of the Week for the second time this year, making him the only ISU player to have ever won the honor twice in one year. Hoskins compliments him well as the two have combined for almost 50 percent of the team's tackles.

**Strengths:** Bret Oberg's emergence at quarterback and Joe Henderson's play at running back give the Cyclones hope for a respectable season.

**Weaknesses:** Iowa State does not have great size, and consistency has been a problem.

**Statistically Speaking:** Iowa State continues to go with its "no huddle" offense about 70 percent of the time. ■

## The Report Card

NU	POS.	ISU
A	QB	C+
A-	RB	B+
A-	OL	C
B+	E	B-
B+	DL	C+
A	LB	B
B+	DB	C+
B+	K	B+

## Nebraska vs. Iowa State

**When:** 1:00 p.m. (Central), Saturday, Nov. 5.

**Where:** Cyclone Stadium, Ames, Iowa.

**Media Coverage:** Husker Football Network.

**Cyclone Facts:** Coach — Jim Walden (Wyoming '70) is in his second year at Iowa State with a record of 7-12, and 51-64-4 overall. School Colors — Cardinal and Gold. Nickname — Cyclones. Enrollment — 26,000. Conference — Big Eight. Basic Offense — Multiple. Basic Defense — 4-3.

**The Series:** Nebraska leads, 67-13-2, in one of the more over-matched series in the Big Eight Conference. Last year the Cornhuskers won, 42-3, as Keith Jones rushed for 240 yards. Iowa State

has not defeated Nebraska since 1977, when the Cyclones edged the Cornhuskers in Lincoln, 24-21. The Cornhuskers' 15-game winning streak against Iowa State from 1921-1937 is the longest in series history. The 21-12 victory over ISU in 1940 was the 300th all-time victory for the Huskers. From 1943-1945, Iowa State posted three straight victories over NU, marking the longest winning streak for the Cyclones in the series. Nebraska's 72 points in the 1983 match was the most a Husker team has scored against Iowa State, with the widest margin of victory coming in 1975 when NU blanked the Cyclones, 52-0, in Lincoln. Tom Osborne's record against Iowa State is 13-2. ■



# COACH'S EVALUATION

Tom Osborne

## Tigers Tough As Expected

"I think Missouri played very well. They played a very emotional game. They played very hard. They're strong, physical people. We felt that way going into the game. Nobody really moved the ball very much on them.

"We looked at film of last week's game with Oklahoma State. Plays on which (Barry) Sanders normally was making 7 or 8 yards, he was getting only 1 or 2 a week ago. We couldn't see where it was going to be easy (playing Missouri).

"Carl Reese is their defensive coordinator and they went back to their 1981 game plan, when we had Turner Gill and beat 'em 6-0 in Columbia. They knocked the tar out of Turner all day long. They blitzed from every angle.

"And I suppose they were coming with a full blitz probably 60 or 70 percent of the time. We had some turnovers from it, and that really hurt, where Steve Taylor got hit from the blind side. There are some plays you just can't protect.

"We had some opportunities for some big plays. That's the deal. You're going to have big plays or you're going to have nothing. We made some adjustments at halftime, and the second half we had some read options, which means you're reading the handoff, out of the spread. We had 'em spread out so we knew where the blitz was coming.

"We were able to audible the options, and that was what (Bryan) Carpenter broke on the long run and what he broke for a pretty good run one other time.

"And, of course, the other thing was just when they were playing three-deep man-to-man against four receivers. When you've got a linebacker running on one guy, you occasionally get a big play if you can scramble. The big problem is getting protection.

"A lot of our better fans were holler-ing at me at the half to throw the ball. But you've got to be able to get it off. You can't just haul off and throw it.

"I was very proud of our team for winning this ball game. There will be people upset with us because we didn't make the point spread. That was the

most ridiculous point spread I've ever seen in my life because I know what they've got down there (in Missouri).

"When Missouri's playing well, they have the people to play with anybody.

"When they get ready to play, they can play that kind of football. So we expected we'd get their best shot, and we

got it. They did some very intelligent things as far as coaching is concerned.

"I thought our defense played a great game. I was really proud of them. We got a lot of turnovers.

"It was a very interesting game to coach, one of the more interesting, and harder, I've been involved with." ■

### CORNHUSKER 2-DEEP

#### OFFENSE

SE	19 Morgan Gregory	6-0	185	jr.
	22 Nate Turner	6-1	220	fr.
LT	62 Bob Sledge	6-2	270	sr.
	78 Tom Punt	6-8	270	so.
LG	65 Andy Keeler	6-3	265	sr.
	66 Jim Wanek	6-0	240	so.
C	68 Jake Young	6-5	260	jr.
	59 Jeff Anderson	6-4	270	sr.
RG	76 John Nelson	6-1	260	sr.
	69 Bill Bobbora	6-3	260	jr.
RT	70 Doug Glaser	6-7	295	jr.
	73 Steve Engstrom	6-3	285	so.
TE	43 Todd Millikan	6-3	245	sr.
	85 Monte Kratzstein	6-4	225	jr.
QB	9 Steve Taylor	6-0	205	sr.
	14 Gerry Gdowski	6-1	195	jr.
FB	29 Bryan Carpenter	5-10	200	jr.
	18 Lance Lewis	6-0	200	fr.
IB	32 Ken Clark	5-9	200	jr.
	34 Tyreese Knox	5-10	215	sr.
WB	33 Dana Brinson	5-9	170	sr.
	21 Richard Bell	6-0	195	jr.
PK	16 Chris Drennan	5-9	180	jr.
	44 Gregg Barrios	5-8	180	so.

#### DEFENSE

OLB	89 Broderick Thomas	6-3	235	sr.
	93 Jon Marco	6-1	220	sr.
LT	84 Willie Griffin	6-3	275	sr.
	56 Joe Sims	6-4	285	so.
MG	96 Lawrence Pete	6-1	270	sr.
	74 Mike Murray	5-10	240	jr.
RT	91 Kent Wells	6-5	285	jr.
	95 Paul Brungardt	6-7	255	so.
OLB	42 Jeff Mills	6-3	220	jr.
	88 Mike Croel	6-3	215	so.
SLB	47 LeRoy Etienne	6-1	230	jr.
	55 Randall Jobman	6-3	230	jr.
WLB	49 Chris Caliendo	6-3	240	jr.
	40 Pat Tyrance	6-2	230	so.
LCB	8 Lorenzo Hicks	6-0	195	sr.
	38 Bruce Pickens	5-11	185	jr.
RCB	10 Charles Fryar	5-10	175	sr.
	5 Tahaun Lewis	5-11	170	so.
SS	17 Reggie Cooper	6-3	200	so.
	23 Mark Blazek	6-2	200	sr.
S	4 Tim Jackson	6-0	190	sr.
	23 Mark Blazek	6-2	200	sr.
P	46 John Kroeker	5-11	175	sr.
	48 Scott Beckler	6-0	185	so.

### CYCLONE 2-DEEP

#### OFFENSE

SE	86 Dennis Ross	6-3	190	sr.
	81 John Glotfelty	6-1	181	so.
LT	72 Gene Williams	6-4	274	so.
	77 Dave Benoit	6-4	246	jr.
LG	69 Keith Sims	6-3	289	jr.
	68 Lance Henkel	6-4	234	fr.
C	66 David Heyn	6-2	257	sr.
	56 Chris Mussman	6-5	250	so.
RG	54 Trent Van Hoosen	6-3	244	jr.
	78 Scott Armbrust	6-3	240	fr.
RT	62 Rich Moore	6-4	260	sr.
	73 Ben Mitchell	6-4	287	jr.
QB	16 Bret Oberg	6-2	190	jr.
	5 Chris Pedersen	6-3	200	fr.
RB	33 Joe Henderson	6-0	205	sr.
	32 Ron Wilkinson	6-0	185	fr.
RB	40 Curtis Warren	6-0	205	sr.
	38 Gary Pedersen	6-2	195	fr.
TE	85 Mike Busch	6-5	252	jr.
	88 Craig Mahoney	6-3	228	so.
FL	1 Eddie Brown	5-10	180	sr.
	7 Troy Moore	6-0	175	so.
PK	9 Jeff Shudak	5-11	178	so.

#### DEFENSE

LDE	59 Mark Foley	6-3	226	so.
	48 Dean Ahlers	6-1	210	jr.
LDT	60 Alan Patten	6-4	240	sr.
	93 Matt Grubb	6-2	225	fr.
RDT	43 Don Edwards	6-3	230	jr.
	95 Mathew Rehberg	6-5	262	so.
RDE	75 Randy Bern	6-4	260	jr.
	90 Dan Daly	6-4	240	fr.
SLB	44 John Cinefro	6-2	212	jr.
	47 Robert Lendino	6-4	226	jr.
MLB	45 Mike Shane	6-2	216	jr.
	58 Tyrone Davis	6-1	210	fr.
WLB	49 Anthony Hoskins	6-1	231	sr.
	37 Charles Vondra	6-0	199	jr.
RCB	27 Ray Carreathers	6-2	194	sr.
	22 Dave Eder	5-11	174	jr.
LCB	11 Marcus Robertson	6-0	184	so.
	15 Greg Gloede	6-0	182	jr.
SS	41 Jeff Dole	6-2	202	sr.
	8 Jeff Bauer	6-0	178	so.
FS	29 Tim Baker	6-2	192	jr.
	23 Adam Beck	6-0	187	so.
P	18 Judge Johnston	6-0	183	jr.



**Bowling in Miami, Phoenix, New Orleans?** Who knows? Obviously, a Nebraska victory over Oklahoma and Colorado means a trip to the Orange Bowl for the Cornhuskers as Big Eight champs. A three-way tie possibility would leave the choice up to the Orange Bowl. They usually choose a team based on higher ranking, better record, and head-to-head competition. But in the final analysis, it comes down to who they think will sell tickets.

The Fiesta Bowl has said it wouldn't mind taking Nebraska for the third time in four years. "Nebraska has been a natural tie-in for us. There are more Nebraska fans than for any other school in our state outside of Arizona and Arizona State. We have no restrictions on having Nebraska again; in fact, we would love to have them," said Bruce Skinner, executive director of the Fiesta Bowl.

**NU running back Ken Clark** explained his absence from post-game interviews after his 256 yards against Oklahoma State and 225 yards against Kansas State: "I just didn't have anything to say." Clark was told by coaches to tell the press just that to keep them happy.

"I like talking to the press, but there's not much to say, other than I'm enjoying myself and the blocking has been great," Clark said. The junior from Omaha Bryan, said one of the keys to recent success is learning to play hurt. He said that after Terry Rodgers' season was ended with a knee injury, the responsibility was going to be his to get the job done.

**Nebraska Coach Tom Osborne** said he couldn't think of any way his players could get past the drug testing without being caught. "It's kind of dehumanizing to have to go through the test with people watching, but that way there is no switching or masking," he said.

**Outside linebacker Broderick Thomas** is among the 12 semifinalists for the Lombardi Award and one of the leaders for the Butkus Award. "I don't want to go home without something in my hand," Thomas said. "But I want to win some more games, too, and that means the Big Eight championship and the national championship, too."

**Reserve defensive tackle Joe Sims**



Broderick Thomas has been named a Lombardi finalist.

said the help he gets from starter Willie Griffin, as well as junior Ray Valladao helps him learn the defensive tackle position. "I think Ray and I and a couple of others guys will have a good battle for the position next spring," he said.

**Punter John Kroeker**, who has punted just three times in the last three games, said he was wondering if it might mean they'll leave him home on the next road trip. "I guess it's good they don't need me that often," he said.

**Nebraska offensive line coach Milt Tenopir** was not at a loss for words when asked to describe the play of center Jake Young. "Jake's the best overall center we've ever had or played against by far," he said. "It probably sounds like a lot of rhetoric, but we've not had one like Jake as far as his inner workings. Jake's the only kid Coach Osborne and I have ever had to tell to slow down in practice or he won't have anything left for the game."

**Middle guard Lawrence Pete**, who was sidelined for the Kansas State game with tonsillitis, said he will have his tonsils removed after the Oklahoma game this year.

**Reserve quarterback Gerry Gdowski** said that starter Steve Taylor has taken the pressure off himself and

that's why he's playing so much more consistently than in the past. "Steve's not trying to do so much and he's getting more done," Gdowski said. "He sure helps me a lot, too."

**Tom Osborne** said, for those who question the NU defense, "We're ranked No. 1 in the Big Eight in total defense and in pass defense. That, hopefully, will encourage those fans who don't think we can play a lick of defense."

**NU on-campus recruiting coordinator Dave Gillespie** said recruiting is going full tilt. "We hope to have our top 50 or so candidates in for visits and we think our evaluation process is going well."

Recruits in California, Oklahoma, Mississippi, New Jersey, New York, Louisiana and Florida are among those being recruited by Nebraska.

**Missouri Coach Woody Widenhofer** said what Nebraska did to Oklahoma State was even more amazing than what UCLA did to Nebraska earlier in the season. "What Nebraska did to OSU was phenomenal. I don't think anybody can duplicate that. Nebraska has to be just mad from the UCLA game and it's made them one of the best teams in the country. Maybe the best," he said. ■



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Some mistakenly thought Tom Osborne was conservative. The Bummeroosky dispelled that notion.

It sure looked familiar.

A tight game, a team in punt formation, a routine snap from center and then all heck breaking loose. Television cameras jerking to and fro, trying to figure out just who had the ball, while a hostile home crowd watched in stunned silence as the ball — from wherever it came — was carried toward their goal line.

This was the scene earlier this season at Clemson, S.C., as Florida State rallied late from a 21-21 tie with the help of their special play to defeat Clemson 24-21 in front of a national television audience.

Florida State coach Bobby Bowden, who has earned a reputation for taking risks and avoiding tie games at all costs, had pulled another miracle from his bag of tricks with a play that would be called in the newspapers the next day the "Bummeroosky," the "Punt Rooski," or the "Punt Ruski," depending on which one you read.

The history of the play was covered in some detail, both in the local press and by the wire services. Bowden traced the play back to Jerry Claiborne in the 1960s and Bowden claimed to have film of Arkansas State using the play. Its origins have been credited to Bum Phillips, who, it is said, created the play while coaching high school football in Texas in the 1950s (thus, the "Bum" in the title).

But lost in all this discourse on the history of the play was the fact that it had been run in a major college game prior to this one. A game that was also on national television between two heated rivals. It was 1975, and Nebraska was at Missouri.

Heading into their game with Missouri that season, the Huskers were 7-0 and



climbing in the national rankings. The offense was sparked by the strong right arm of quarterback Vince Ferragamo and the running of I-backs John O'Leary and Monte Anthony and fullback Tony Davis.

Even though the Huskers were a powerful unit, they entered their game at Columbia with third-year coach Tom Osborne as well as most of the players themselves having never beaten Missouri.

The Tigers had taken a rugged 13-12 verdict at Columbia two years earlier, hanging on for the win after David Humm's try for a 2-point conversion late in the game had been foiled. Then in 1974, Missouri again proved to be Osborne's foil, defeating the Huskers 21-10.

In fact, heading into the 1975 contest, the Huskers were just 13-16-2 all-time at Columbia, including an 8-15-1 record at Faurot Field.

"We had never beaten Missouri since I had been at Nebraska and we wanted the game that year really bad," Davis remembered.

O'Leary knew that they were in for a battle. "No matter how good or bad Missouri was supposed to be, they would hit you harder than anyone else. They had a defensive back that year (Kenny Downing) who had no teeth and would kill you on every play," O'Leary said.

The game was of enough national significance that ABC chose the game to be telecast to the nation that week. This was in the pre-deregulated era of college football on television, when an appearance was a rare and, therefore, cherished opportunity to exhibit your team's talents to the nation.

The Huskers went through their usual week of preparations for the game. One of the more tedious aspects of the week's practice was the time devoted to the kicking game. As a break from the tedium all through the season, O'Leary suspects, the coaches had added an odd looking play with an equally odd name: the Bummeroosky.

It involved the center snapping the ball not to the punter, but to one of the up backs in the formation. This back then stuck the ball between the legs of the blocking back in front of him and then faked a reverse with the third

**Vince Ferragamo's passing heroics against Missouri in 1975 were overshadowed by a trick play.**



blocking back in the formation. The punter leapt into the air, faking a high snap, while the runner with the ball held for a count then ran around the other end, hopefully undetected.

"Did I think we would ever run it? Not at all," O'Leary remembered. "We all thought, being the amateur psychologists we were, that the coaches were using it to make the kicking drills more bearable."

Davis at first was skeptical of the new play. "I had my questions about the play at first. It seemed like the guy who ended up with the ball would be a sitting duck after we started the fake reverse. But the more that we practiced it, I began to see that it could work."

It was an overcast day in Columbia on Nov. 1, 1975, as the Huskers took the field to meet their nemesis from Miz-zou. The Huskers started quickly, jumping out to a 10-0 lead in the first quarter on a Mike Coyle 30-yard field goal and a 5-yard touchdown pass from Ferragamo to tight end Brad Jenkins.

But the momentum in the game began to swing Missouri's way in the second quarter, and when Tony Galbreath busted over from the 1 with 6:34 to go in the half, the Tigers had cut the Huskers' lead to 3.

The Huskers had the ball near the end of the half but were stalled at the Tigers' 40, and on fourth down the punting unit came on the field. But this time they weren't going to punt.

"I was standing on the sidelines, when Tom yelled for me to come over to him," O'Leary remembered. "He told me to 'get in there and run the Bummeroosky.' Now, I was always the guy who stayed loose on the team and I make a lot of jokes on the field. I told Tom that they (the other players) would never believe me if I went in and called that play," he said.

"He just said to get in there and run it. So I asked him, 'If we run it and it doesn't work, can I blame you?' He said yes, so I went in and called it.

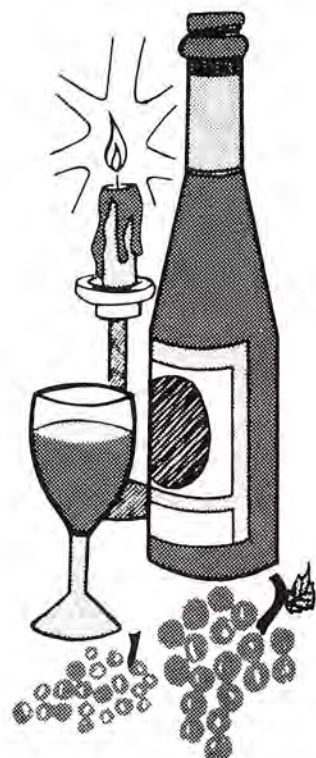
"When I got to the huddle and called the play, the guys just said, 'Come on, be serious,' but I told them that he had called it and if it didn't work he said he'd take the blame. So we ran it," O'Leary said.

Davis, who would rush for 49 yards in the game from his spot at fullback, was the vital player in the play that was about to unfold. He would be on the receiving end of the snap from All-American center Rik Bonness. Davis would then stuff the ball between the legs of the back in front of him (O'Leary) and then fake a reverse with the third back (Monte Anthony).

Was he nervous when the play was called? "I don't remember being nervous, but I do remember having a flash in my head, telling myself to just catch the ball. The snap from center isn't the easiest thing to grab on to. But the thing is, we had so much repetition on the



"ONE OF THE  
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## Roosky-Do!

play in practice that by the time we called it in a game, the execution was almost automatic," Davis said.

Bonness' snap to Davis was on the money and Davis did exactly as he had told himself — he caught the snap. He then placed the ball between O'Leary's legs and then faked a reverse to Anthony.

"Monte and I really didn't run the fake out all that well. We were running toward our bench and the guys on the sideline and our fans in the stands were all going crazy. I looked up and John was running by himself down the other sideline," Davis said.

But before O'Leary could begin his run to glory, he was almost stopped dead in his tracks.

"The defensive end on the left side was crashing down on me, since I was supposed to look like a blocker for the reverse. He used a swim technique (where the defensive player shoves the blocker aside with one arm while 'swimming' the other arm over the blocker) to get past me. He noticed that I had the ball as he went past, but by then it was too late."

The play had totally confounded the Tigers, the crowd and the play-by-play announcers, who treated their viewers and listeners to a few of those rare moments in broadcasting when no one is quite sure what had just happened.

One Omaha television station proudly proclaimed for weeks after that they were the lone station with cameras there that day to capture the play on film, and they took many opportunities during the following weeks to show off the evidence.

Officially, the play went in the books as a 40-yard touchdown for O'Leary that gave the Huskers a 16-7 halftime lead. Placekicker Mike Coyle missed the extra point, ending what was then a school-record 35 in a row. But that point didn't matter, as Ferragamo teamed up with Bobby Thomas for a pair of long scoring strikes in the second half and Nebraska cruised to a 30-7 victory.

The game proved to be a turning point in the Huskers' fortunes against the Tigers. The Huskers have not lost a game since in Columbia, a total of seven straight. It was Osborne's first victory over Missouri as well, and since then,

he has won 10 of 12.

In some ways, the play might have helped further endear the head coach to his rabid following as well.

The public perception of Osborne and his play-calling style in 1975 was that the third-year coach might have been a little on the conservative side. It didn't matter that he had been the offensive coordinator under Bob Devaney when the Huskers had captured back-to-back national titles in 1970 and 1971, or that the Huskers in his first two years had been one of the top passing teams in the college game.

The players never thought of him as conservative.

"That was something that you guys (the media) seemed to believe," Davis said. "But he never seemed that way to us. He always had little gimmicks in the game plan, even back then. Maybe they just weren't real obvious to the media or the average fan, but they were to other coaches who had to get ready for us. Of course the Bummeroosky was real obvious to everyone," he added.

"He is very calculated in his overall approach," O'Leary said, "but he always comes up with a couple of wrinkles for each game. He's brilliant at doing those types of things."

But in the years since, Osborne has become known — as has Bobby Bowden — for his daring and his use of the uncommon plays. Each has been memorable and each has been honored with the "Roosky" name.

There was the "Fumbleroosky" that Randy Schleusener and John Havekost ran against Oklahoma in 1979 and Dean Steinkuhler did later against Miami in the memorable 1984 Orange Bowl. That play involved an intentional fumble by the quarterback. The ball was then left on the ground for the guard to pick up and run with it.

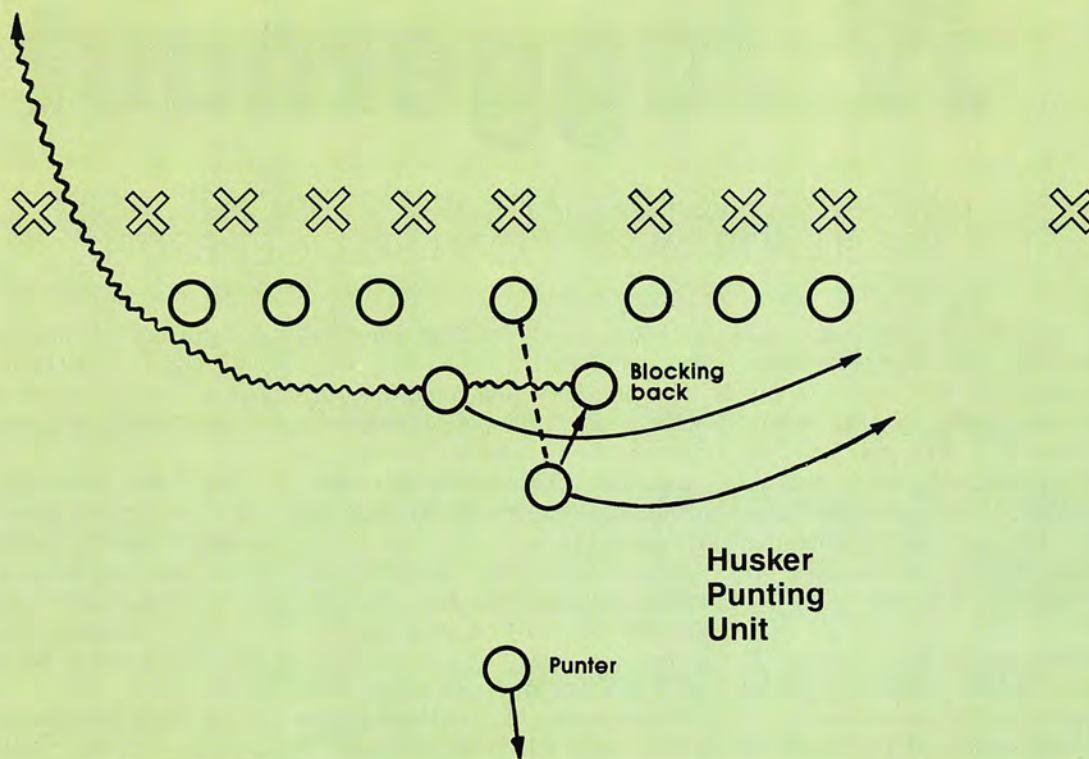
And the "Bounceroosky," an intentional incompleteness from Turner Gill to Irving Fryar that was actually a lateral that Fryar then threw for a completion to Mitch Krenk against Oklahoma in 1982.

Each of these plays has established Nebraska — and Osborne in particular — as a leading proponent of imaginative plays.

But for some reason, despite a repu-



# The Bummeroosky



tation for running those types of plays, the Huskers' running of the Bummeroosky wasn't recalled in the rash of stories that followed FSU's use of the play. Several national stories traced the history rightfully back to Bum Phillips and his high school days, but none mentioned the Huskers' use of the play in 1975.

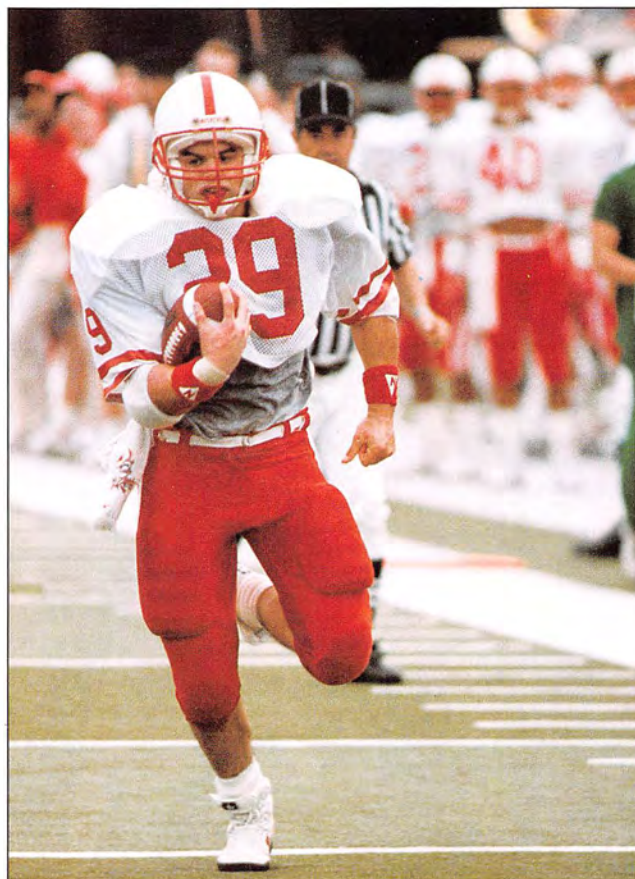
But the players involved remember.

Davis, now a graduate assistant coach at Nebraska after a career in the NFL, was watching the game at home when the Seminoles pulled it off.

"I smiled right away when I saw what they were doing, since I recognized the play right away. I really smiled when I heard the announcers struggling to figure out what was going on. It was a guts call by Coach Bowden to use it in that situation. I admire him for taking the chance to call it," Davis said.

O'Leary agrees. "I saw the back cheating up on the play, so I knew what was coming. It was a great call when Tom made it, but we still had a whole half left to play. For Bowden to call it with the game on the line, deep in his own end at that stage in the game, it was the greatest call I've ever seen." ■

The "Bummeroosky" play (above) calls for one of the backs to receive the snap instead of the punter. The back then puts the ball between the legs of the blocking back in front of him, who eventually runs with the ball. Bryan Carpenter (right) has been the most recent "Roosky" back, pulling it off against UCLA.





# JV Juggernaut

NEBRASKA WON AGAIN, BUT COACHES INSIST  
THE JUNIOR VARSITY CAN STILL GET BETTER.

Question: When is a win not enough?

Answer: When the Nebraska freshman football team beat the University of Nebraska-Omaha freshman team, 36-14, recently at Memorial Stadium.

"I didn't think we played like we should," said NU freshman coach Shane Thorell. "You like to see them improve each week. We won, and we feel good about that. But I don't know if we improved."

Certainly, Nebraska's struggle to maintain a 16-14 lead at the end of the third quarter was a sign of trouble.

But quarterback Mike Grant of Brandon, Fla., managed to overcome that problem when he scored on a 21-yard run to open the fourth quarter. He quickly followed with a 42-yard

touchdown pass to Jon Bostick to break the game open.

Nebraska, now 4-0, counted heavily on the 6-foot-2, 200-pound Grant. The rifle-armed, fleet-footed quarterback rushed for 133 yards and two touchdowns while passing for 60 yards and two more TDs.

For the season, Grant has eight touchdowns passing and four running, plus 706 yards of total offense in four games.

He managed a grin after the game.

"I was running like I did back in high school and it felt great," he said. "I had the good footwork." In previous games, Grant said his footwork was lacking.

But he still was disappointed in his

performance. "I missed some reads on my passes," said Grant. "And a few passes were dropped because they weren't thrown perfect the way I'd like to."

The UNO freshman junior varsity team brought the game to life when freshman running back Bruce Martens of Fremont broke loose on a 72-yard run on the second play of the game.

UNO teammate Eric Hill then scored on a 1-yard run to put the Mavericks ahead, 7-0.

"We had to get right back in their face every time or they would have caught us flat," Grant said of the first score.

Grant sprinted through the UNO defense for 27 yards on the second NU play of the game. Three plays later, one of which was a 13-yard run by Grant, the solidly built QB scored on a 43-yard run to tie the game.

Nebraska safety Steve Carmer fumbled a UNO punt, and the Mavs recovered, but he made amends when he intercepted a pass just four minutes later to set up Nebraska's go-ahead score.

Bob Hoover capped a 12-play, 55-yard drive with a 35-yard field goal to put Nebraska ahead 10-7 with 13:36 left in the first half.

Carmer recovered a fumble (this time by the Huskers) four plays later when Nebraska mishandled another punt, and the Huskers drove to the UNO 7. But they stalled on downs, and Hoover missed a 37-yard field goal attempt.

Nebraska didn't have to wait long, though, as Tyrone Legette, a freshman from Columbia, S.C., picked off a UNO pass and returned it 30 yards to the UNO 11. Three plays later, Grant hit his No. 1 receiver, Bostick, on a 7-yard pass to give Nebraska a 16-7 lead at halftime.

A string of three dropped passes and a determined defense by the Mavericks



**Steve Carmer**  
has spent time  
with both the  
varsity and the  
JV teams.



kept Nebraska from scoring in the third quarter.

Meanwhile, the UNO team, which had practiced just one week for the game and played almost exclusively with freshmen (the Mavs had one sophomore), stopped NU on a fake punt play at the Husker 40. UNO then ground out a nine-play touchdown drive to close the score to 16-14 with four seconds left in the third quarter.

"We're just a little old Division II team and our kids hung in there good," said UNO head coach Sandy Buda. UNO freshman coach Bruce Southwell added, "I think we showed a few people we aren't that bad. I thought it was a heck of an effort."

Nebraska then broke the game open with Grant's heroics in the fourth quarter and tacked on a late touchdown when backup quarterback Bart James hit Tom Werner on a 22-yard pass on fourth down.

"I think we wore them down a bit," Grant said. "We've been in conditioning since August, and we picked up the pace. They seemed like they weren't as hyped and weren't talking as much in the fourth quarter."

Besides, Nebraska was able to take advantage of its option play as the game progressed, he said.

"I know they couldn't stop the option and take the corners and the option, too," Grant said. "We make it so you have to take the corner or take the option. Eventually we'll get the break."

Freshman I-back Scott Baldwin of New Jersey also counted on the option pitch, gaining 93 yards on 22 carries.

"They (UNO) were good — the best we've played this year," Baldwin said. "They were good and inspired, and I didn't think they were bad at all. We were not breaking them open until Mike Grant found some openings in the options and hit the open guys on the passes."

Thorell said he was pleased with the play of the offense, especially Grant.

"He has a lot of ability that hasn't been shown yet," Thorell said. "He made a few freshman decisions — freshman mistakes. But through four games he has looked very strong."

Thorell said he was upset with his defense, though.

**Fullback Andre McDuffy helped lead NU to its fourth win.**



"I can't think of a guy who didn't miss a tackle on defense. I guess I'd have to say Tyrone Legette had a good day with the interception and another good kickoff return," he said.

Legette's 49-yard kickoff return after UNO closed to 16-14 helped set up Grant's 21-yard touchdown run early in the fourth quarter.

"Defensively, we missed a lot of tackles and had too many arm tackles and that caused us trouble," Thorell said.

"I think they (UNO) came to prove something," he said. "Bruce Martens showed he is a very good running back and I think he wanted to prove something, too."

Martens finished as the leading rusher in the game with 158 yards and one touchdown.

"His first run (72 yards) really woke us up," Thorell said.

Martens, like many of the UNO players, was asked to walk on at Nebraska this fall, but chose a scholarship with the Omaha school instead.

"We came out here pumped up to show that we could play with these guys," he said. "In the end, I think they were the ones who wanted it more and had more talent. But we ran right at

them and showed we weren't intimidated."

Nebraska outside linebacker Paul Wightman, a walkon, led the Huskers with 13 tackles, including two for losses. He also broke up two passes. Carmier had 10 tackles as did walk-on noseguard Matt Hilman.

Linebacker Chris Bander had nine tackles for the Huskers. Making six tackles each were scholarship freshmen Rick Wendland, Jeremiah Clark and Jamie Liewer.

"We need to show improvement in defense and that will come with consistency and more practices," Thorell said.

Nebraska will play host to Waldorf Junior College of Iowa on Nov. 4 in the final game of the season. A victory would give the Huskers their first unbeaten junior varsity season since 1985.

"There's a lot of work left and a lot of room for improvement," Thorell said.

UNO coach Southwell praised the Huskers. "They have a lot of talent, but I thought we fought them to a stalemate on the offensive and defensive lines, and that was good to see for us. We responded to the challenge, but Nebraska did, too." ■



# The Keeler Instinct

GUARD ANDY KEELER HAS A SENSE OF BALANCE THAT ALLOWS BOTH HIS FOOTBALL LIFE AND PERSONAL LIFE TO THRIVE.

Don't let those cherubic facial features fool you. When you look into his dark, intense eyes you begin to understand what Nebraska offensive line coach Dan Young means when he says, "If I had to go down a dark alley at night, the guy I would want with me is Andy Keeler."

The Cornhusker senior offensive

guard, after the usual reflection to digest that statement, shrugs and replies, "I don't know about being tough, but I wouldn't want to go down that alley and lose!"

There, in two brief remarks, you get a partial picture of the succinct but very politely mature Keeler, who can wheel

his 6-foot-3 by 275 frame over the 40 (5.07 seconds) quicker than any other member of the Husker offensive wall. He's as intense, aggressive and acutely aware of his assignments as the best in the game. But Keeler quietly and quite gladly leaves football in Memorial Stadium to avoid "letting football dictate my entire life."

Young adds, "He's tough and smart. He'll play with more than the normal number of scrapes and nicks, and Andy is the kind of player you go to on the sideline for ideas and an assessment of what's going on out there on the field."

"After Andy became a starter, it was amazing how much knowledge he had of everyone's assignment in our offense. He'll even remember two or three games back about assignments and adjustments we have made."

"He's a big part of a very cohesive bunch in our offensive line."

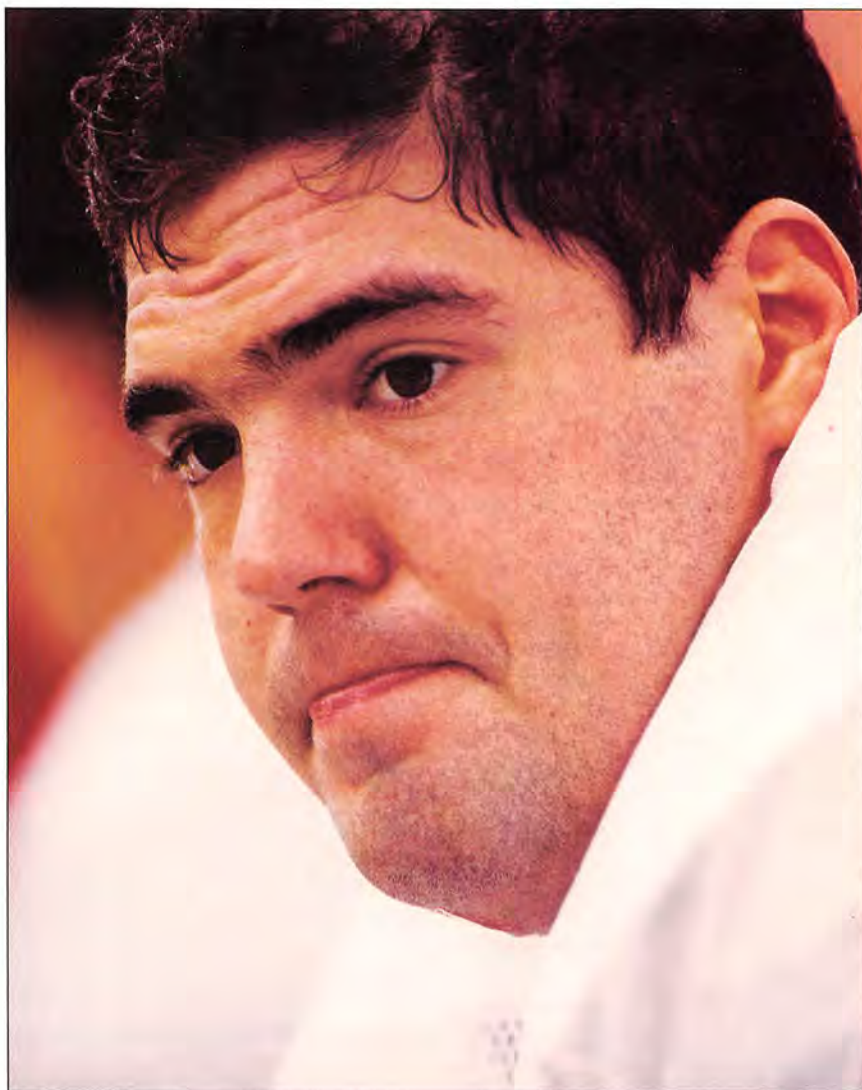
To this, after a moment of thought, Keeler responds, "You understand as you get older and progress in the system, particularly what the guys next to you are doing, too. If you can see the total picture — and you can if you've been around and played — you can understand why things do or don't work."

What about this "tough guy" image so often tossed around at the mention of his name? Is he really as intense as many say? Is he middle-of-the-road or is he just masking a laid-back personality?

"I'm all of them," Keeler says. "I can be intense when I'm playing football, and when I get home, I'm laid back. I'm not a softy or hard-tail, either."

Then he adds a phrase that might really portray the depth of this mature, young man's mind, saying, "There's a time and a place for all of these attitudes."

Keeler and his older brother Mike, a



Andy Keeler



defensive tackle in 1981-83, are one of a number of Nebraska football-playing brothers. But they are the first brothers in 99 years to both have served as Husker co-captains their senior years. The younger Keeler was brought into the game by a Husker legend and his high school coach, Larry Jacobson, who is a member of the Nebraska Football Hall of Fame and a four-year veteran of the National Football League (he played for the New York Giants).

Andy didn't just rush into the game of football. His late father established a weight room in the basement of their home for his oldest son. Andy adds, "I was in the third grade when Dad got a set of weights for Mike. Oh, yes, I went down there but mostly I just got in the way."

"My brother wrestled, too, and I usually got tired of him trying his new wrestling holds on me."

"When I got in the eighth grade, I started the summer fitness program under Coach Jacobson. I didn't do much at first because they knew I wasn't going to play much for a couple of years."

As a tadpole, high school sophomore (6-1 by 175 pounds), Keeler "was lazy," he says. "I tried to cut corners to get out of doing things. Coach Jacobson sat me down and told me I had the potential, but I had to work at it. After a week or two, I got interested in this weight-room stuff and went to work on it."

Then, with a wry smile, he adds, "Then I couldn't cut corners anymore because Coach was watching all the time. Mom used to take me to school and tell me she would pick me up in two hours."

"Now, I ask you, what else is there to do in an empty school for two hours except lift?"

Keeler lifted himself into imposing schoolboy size (225-230 pounds), and his senior year he was All-State and prep All-American. Even though he was offered, and accepted, a scholarship to Nebraska, Keeler very calmly addresses the fact he didn't relish his high school reputation.

Asked when he first adopted his unusually mature philosophy, he responds, "Probably, in high school. I had sort of a bad reputation in high school . . . some of the things I did . . . but

most of the time I was just at the wrong place at the wrong time. And my name was a little more well known, and usually I got the blame."

"No, not under any circumstance, was this comfortable."

Thinking back on his arrival on the Lincoln campus, Keeler uses his surprisingly accurate introspection to recall, "When I came down here, I was no longer the big fish. You couldn't get away with some of the junk you pulled when you were younger."

"I had to put it in the best perspective I could and realize that I was no longer the best athlete, or even one of the best athletes, and that I was just another person on the team and would have to prove myself all over again."

Don't for a moment regard these attitudes in the negative sense. At first his rather concise replies might indicate this, but Keeler is an example of what the complete picture of a college education can represent.

Without a hint of resignation and almost in a take-my-advice tone of voice, he says, "I think you have to realize what you can do and can't do (as an athlete). At any given moment you have to know how good you are. You aren't going to win the Heisman or Outland Trophies, and you're not going to start all the years you're here. You aren't going to move mountains, at least not at the outset. You've just got to learn how to cope with this."

When asked of his thoughts about a pro football future, he gives a patented Keeler response: "I don't think about that at all. I don't know whether or not pro football is in my future."

His description of his impending degree in economics brings an uncertain but unconcerned reply, "I'll get my degree next spring. I'll have to take seven or eight hours next semester. That'll be nice, that few hours, but they'll be fairly difficult courses. I'll be able to space them out through the day and not have to cram them in between 8:30 and 10:00 a.m."

"My GPA (grade point average) isn't all that good. I often regret how I could have used my freshman and redshirt year to greater advantage. I know I could have been a better student but I've progressed so far in school that now one



**Keeler works his craft against Kansas as fullback Lance Lewis (18) provides reinforcement.**

or two A's won't drastically raise my GPA."

What is he going to do with his degree? He quickly chips in, "I have no idea. I'm certainly not independently wealthy, but my stepfather works for Russell Athletics and I might take a shot at their base school in Alabama, then give that a try."

"I'd like to do something related to athletics, but I don't want to be behind a desk all of the time," he says and, then in typical Keeler style, adds, "I'll just start from the bottom, work my way up and take it from there."

Admitting he "isn't all that close" to his brother Mike, he was glad the first Keeler footballer to attend UN-Lincoln was nearby when he was a youngster. "I must have been in the third grade and on the high platform out at Peony Park in Omaha, waiting to jump it," Andy related. "Somebody pushed me off the tower and I went into the water head first. I was shocked, stunned or whatever, and I began to panic when I



surfaced and tried to dog-paddle to the bank.

"Of course, when panic sets in you can't accomplish a darn thing. I was yelling, but the lifeguard didn't hear me, and Mike dove in and got me. I'm probably making more out of it than I should because just another four or five feet and I would've been able to touch the bottom."

Keeler admits perplexity about most people's attitudes toward football players, saying, "It's amazing how people perceive us, like we aren't entitled to the normal anxieties or fears."

"Ever since we lost an engine on the plane coming back from the Fiesta Bowl a few years back (nothing bad happened but there were some tense moments until the plane landed at Lincoln), I've had a tremendous fear of flying. On these football trips, I always take the middle seat with Todd (Millikan), Bob (Sledge) or Jeff (Anderson) sitting on both sides of me.

"The guy next to the window pulls the shade, and we start playing cards the moment we board until we touch down when we arrive. It's not a matter of air sickness. . . it's just fear. The guys on the team realize it now and don't hassle me much at all."

Most of his friends are team members, especially Sledge and Jake Young, who live across the street from Keeler. He also likes to extend his closer ac-



Keeler sees football as only a small part of his life.

quaintances with those who haven't played football, too.

"They say the friends you make in high school are the ones you'll keep closest touch with," Keeler claims. "But, that's not true in my case, at least. These guys will be the ones I'll call in

years to come.

"No, we don't take football home with us. In fact, it's football until 6 p.m., then we go home to another way of life, at least until 2 p.m. the next day. And, I don't take the good or bad games or practices home with me. Neither do these other guys."

His somewhat cavalier approach and apparent determination not to let football control his entire life doesn't mean a letdown in his preparation for the game. He says, "First of all, it's not war. It's an athletic contest. We're doing the best we can and the other guy is trying to do the same thing."

"Even in college, if you let football totally dominate your life you're going to have a long four or five years of college, plus miss a lot of important things. Don't get me wrong, I like the game but there are so many more things offered you here."

"I feel the further you go it seems the less interested you get in letting it control your entire life."

Even Coach Young, a stout disciplinarian in his own right, can live with Keeler's feelings, concluding, "Andy is an exemplary worker, on the field, the weight room and at life in general. You get the feeling he'll always get the job done."

You can almost bank on it when you look into Keeler's dark and intense eyes. ■



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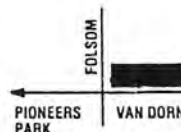
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# Deadly Defensive Linemen

Offense scores you points, defense wins you championships. It's plain and simple but very true. Not many football teams can win it all with strictly a great offense and an average defense. So to start with, a good defensive line is essential.

While offensive linemen have increased in average size over the past few decades, so have defensive linemen; and to compete with their offensive counterparts, they must be close to or equal in size and strength.

Certain regions of the country are loaded with big men just chomping at the bit to sack college quarterbacks, while other regions have few in numbers, but talent, to make up for it. Quite a few of these skilled sackers also play on both sides of the line, protecting quarterbacks, then turning around and sacking opposing ones. The best ones will play defense in college and chase quarterbacks to all ends of the field in pursuit of a defensive lineman's favorite play — the sack.

## WEST

Maybe the top defensive line prospect in the West this year is Tamasi Amatuni (6-4, 296, 4.96) from Vista, Calif. Some people feel this star is good enough to jump from high school to the pros. He has good speed for a big man and must be double-teamed to be effectively blocked. As a junior he averaged seven tackles a game and had 13 sacks. He can bench press 375 pounds. Schools of note include USC, Michigan, Georgia, Colorado, Nebraska and Syracuse.

Up the coast at Long Beach is Marcellous Elder (6-5, 275, 4.8). This prospect is simply impossible to block, *period*. He bench presses 320 pounds and has a vertical jump of 30 inches. Many feel he will be a sure All-American. Schools of note include UCLA, Washington, USC, Georgia, Oklahoma, Nebraska, Arizona State and Notre Dame.

From Banning High School comes Carlson Leomiti (6-3, 310, 5.2) of Wilmington, Calif. This force plays

noseguard, can bench press nearly 400 pounds and moves very well for his size. Schools of note include Arizona State, Arizona, USC, Hawaii and Washington State.

Matt Warner (6-5, 240, 4.85) from Anaheim is a quick-footed prospect who can play on the defensive line, at defensive end or at tight end. He recorded 78 tackles as a junior and had four sacks. He bench presses 310 pounds and has a vertical jump of 28 inches. Schools of note include Stanford, Notre Dame, UCLA, Washington and Syracuse for this good student (3.6 GPA).

Also in Anaheim is Garrett Greedy (6-3, 240, 4.8). This kid can play and hits extremely well. He would like to play linebacker in college, but may not be fast enough. His grades are excellent (3.6 GPA). Schools of note include UCLA, Notre Dame, Colorado, USC and Nebraska.

Staying in Anaheim, you can find Jason Uhl (6-4, 245, 4.9) from Mater Dei High School. He is also an excellent student and can play either defensive lineman or defensive end. He had over 80 tackles and seven sacks as a junior. Schools of note include Washington, Stanford, USC and Arizona State.

Canyon, Calif., star Justin Fix (6-3, 235, 4.95) will have to get bigger to play noseguard in college, but the talent is certainly there. As a junior he averaged nine tackles a game and had an impressive 24 sacks. Schools of note include Nebraska, Washington, Arizona, Penn State and Florida.

## SOUTHWEST

A name certain to make everyone's list is Stuart Tyner (6-5, 260, 4.8) of Tomball, Tex. His speed and academics (3.97 GPA, 1,150 SAT) make him a super prospect, and it certainly doesn't hurt that he can bench press 410 pounds. He averaged 10 tackles a game as a junior and recorded five sacks. Schools of note include Texas, Baylor, TCU, Texas A&M, Army and Notre Dame.

In Conroe is Jerry Irons (6-3, 260, 5.0), the son of former Oakland Raid-

ers linebacker, Gerald Irons. Jerry plays noseguard and is excellent at stopping the run. He says he would like to go out of state and schools of note include Georgia, UCLA, Wisconsin, Oklahoma, Miami, LSU, Colorado and others.

Jason Youngblood (6-4, 282, 5.1) of Refugio, Tex., will make some team very good. He can play on both sides of the line but will most likely play on defense in college. This talented prospect has been a starter since the ninth grade.

Kilgore, Tex. is the home of Vernon Collins (6-2, 265, 4.8). He plays linebacker in high school but is projected as a defensive lineman in college. He registered over 100 tackles as a junior. Schools of note include UCLA, Oklahoma, Oklahoma State, and the Southwest Conference schools.

There are many teams that would love to sign James Lane (6-4, 260, 4.9) from Dallas. His speed is very impressive and his numbers show it, as he joined in on 92 tackles and five sacks as a junior. Schools of note include SMU, Oklahoma, Oklahoma State, Missouri, Texas, Texas A&M and LSU.

The name Shannon Nevodonsky (6-3, 260, 5.1) of Humble, Tex., is one to watch. This tremendous prospect is one coaches will like because of his strength (bench presses 375 pounds) and aggressiveness. He must be double-teamed to be stopped and has great hands, not to mention good grades (3.4 GPA). Schools of note include Oklahoma, UCLA, LSU, Penn State, Georgia, Texas, LSU and Miami.

The Metroplex has one of its finest in Brent Koontz (6-7, 230, 4.9) of Hurst. This talented star can play on either side of the ball and recorded 60 tackles as a junior. The quarterback can never take it easy with Koontz in pursuit as he is a super pass rusher. Schools of note include UCLA, USC, Texas, Texas A&M, LSU and Oklahoma.

The Golden Triangle has one of its best in Mike Batiste (6-3, 300, 5.0) of Beaumont Westbrook. If you are looking for strength, this is your man as he can bench press an incredible 465



pounds. He is excellent on both sides of the line. He can run and pass block like nobody's business and as a junior averaged eight tackles a game. Academically, he is set with a 4.9 GPA on a 5.0 scale. Schools of note include Texas A&M, SMU, USC, Oklahoma and Michigan.

## THE MIDLANDS

Chuck Jones (6-4, 295, 4.9) from Chillicothe, Ohio is on everybody's list of All-American prospects. He had 22 sacks as a junior and played at three different positions. He has great speed for his size and is impossible to block.

Recruiters will be visiting Arnold, Mo., frequently hoping to land Mike Wells (6-4, 270, 4.95). This good student (3.5 GPA) is a threat on both sides of the ball and on defense, had 74 unassisted and 56 assisted tackles as a junior. He bench presses 360 pounds and is a great competitor. Schools of note in-

clude UCLA, Colorado, Michigan, Missouri, Arkansas and Iowa.

Last year it was Dave Jensen and this year it's Junior Bryant (6-5, 265, 5.2) from Omaha Creighton Prep. He is a future All-American. This gem is very difficult to run on and has great quickness. He had 54 unassisted tackles as a junior and was in on 50 more. Schools of note include Nebraska, UCLA, Notre Dame, Penn State, USC and others.

Going back to Ohio, you will find Sylvester Stanley (6-4, 260, 5.1) from Youngstown. He had 78 tackles and nine sacks as a junior. Schools of note include Ohio State, Michigan, Notre Dame, Miami, UCLA and others.

Smack in America's heartland is a prospect who will smack opposing ball carriers. He's Mike Steele (6-4, 260, 4.9) from Wichita. He averaged an impressive 12 tackles a game as a junior and sacked the quarterback 18 times. Some feel he will make a great noseguard, but he can also play offen-

sive tackle. Schools of note include UCLA, Florida State, Georgia, California, Notre Dame, Arkansas, Iowa and Iowa State.

From the Motor City comes Gilbert Brown (6-3, 285, 4.9) who sacked the quarterback 15 times as a junior. This "driving" force also plays on the offensive line but could play noseguard in college. He loves to hit and can bench press 330 pounds. Schools of note include Michigan State, Michigan, Indiana, Kansas and Minnesota.

Staying in Michigan, you will find Leonard Renfro (6-4, 270, 4.8) from Orchard Lake. He played linebacker as a junior but moved to the defensive line this season. He has great quickness and can rush the passer well. Schools of note include Colorado, Michigan State, Indiana and Minnesota.

When you play on a team with Dewell Brewer and James Trapp, publicity might be limited, but Will Shields (6-3, 250, 4.9) of Lawton, Okla., may just be

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tops in his field like his more highly heralded teammates. He is excellent on both sides of the line and is very aggressive. Schools of note include Oklahoma, Oklahoma State and Nebraska.

## SOUTHEAST

You can make your entire athletic department with George Brewer (6-6, 265, 4.85) of LaGrange, Ga. He has lettered in four sports. As a junior he was busy on the gridiron compiling 88 tackles and six sacks while being doubled teamed most of the time. His strength is tremendous as he can bench press 410 pounds, and, yes, he plays on the offensive line as well. Schools of note include Georgia, Auburn, UCLA, Notre Dame and Florida State.

Some feel Sterling Palmer (6-6, 240, 4.6) of Fort Lauderdale may be the best all-around defensive prospect in the country. He sacked the QB 17 times as a junior as he is a skilled pass rusher and averaged 15 tackles a game. He bench presses 400 pounds. Schools of note include Miami, Florida State, Notre Dame, Georgia Tech, Houston, South Carolina, Oklahoma, Purdue, North Carolina, West Virginia, Nebraska and Michigan State.

Up the coast in South Carolina is Dan Rogers (6-4, 255, 5.2) from Duncan. Injuries have hampered his performance some, but he remains a super prospect. He bench presses 300 pounds and is a great wrestler. Schools of note include Penn State, Clemson, UCLA, South Carolina, North Carolina State, Notre Dame and Appalachian State.

Back down in Florida is Todd Chandler (6-5, 285, 5.1) from Jacksonville. He is the younger brother of Dallas Cowboys' tight end Thornton Chandler and is expected to join him in the professional ranks one day. He is a fine pass rusher and has great strength. Schools of note include Oklahoma, Georgia, Tennessee, Auburn, Alabama and Florida.

An all-everything from Columbus, Ga., is Brinson Buckner (6-4, 270, 4.7). Yes, he is that fast. He plays fullback and even kicker and can bench press 450 pounds. As a junior he registered 131 tackles and eight sacks. Schools of note include Nebraska, Clemson, Florida

State, Michigan, and Oklahoma.

## EAST

Maybe the top player in this area is Jessie Vickers (6-4, 260, 4.8) of Elizabeth, N.J. He moves extremely well on both sides of the ball and has tremendous potential. As a junior he averaged nine tackles a game. Schools of note include Clemson, Tennessee, Arizona, Syracuse, Florida, UCLA and Miami.

Staying in the Garden State, you can find Alonzo Spellman (6-5, 255, 4.9) of Rancocas Valley. This future all-pro has great quickness and must be double-teamed. He is also a good basketball player. Schools of note include Florida State, Florida, Georgia, Clemson, Alabama, Nebraska and North Carolina State.

Also in New Jersey is Justin MacFarlan (6-6, 243, 4.9) of Ridgewood. He has great feet, super moves and excel-

lent quickness. This player is explosive on both sides of the ball, evidenced by his 42 unassisted tackles and great number of QB sacks. Schools of note include Boston College, North Carolina, Michigan and Duke.

Eric Pertee (6-3, 250, 4.9) of Barboursville, W.V., is one of the state's top defensive line prospects. He can play fullback but will probably play noseguard in college. This aggressive kid is great at stopping the run and can bench press 300 pounds. Schools of note include West Virginia and Virginia Tech.

Daryl Hill (6-4, 245, 4.9) of Alexandria, Va., is one of the top prospects in northern Virginia. He will most likely play noseguard in college and plays the run like a pro. Hill is another talented force who is constantly double-teamed. He had 87 tackles and six sacks as a junior. Schools of note include Pitt, Virginia, UCLA, Alabama, Maryland and Notre Dame. ■



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*Q: Coach, I am very happy for Ken Clark. He has blossomed into another great Cornhusker I-back, and I think he will be the difference when we play Oklahoma this year. What has been the key to his success, coming on so strong like he has? Dave Prusia, Grand Island, Neb.*

*A: Ken Clark played well the first five games of the season, and he's done a very good job the last few games. His main strengths are probably vision and balance. He sees the field well and is pretty hard to bring down at times. Kenny and Barry Sanders of Oklahoma State are similar in several ways. They're both about the same size, and they both get a lot of yards after they break tackles. If anything, I'd say Kenny is probably getting a few more yards than Sanders when it comes to running the ball after they get hit.*

*Sanders probably has more pure speed than Kenny. But I think he and Sanders are probably playing the best of any of the Big Eight backs at this time. We've always thought Kenny was a very good back; he's simply putting things together as the season goes on.*

*Q: I have noticed that we have had hardly any fumbles or interceptions over the past month, and I remember how we seemed to have some problems with that last year. How do you coach that? Dan Graves, Norfolk, Va.*

*A: Yes, we have had pretty good success this year holding on to the ball. I'm pleased with our consistency, and I think a lot of the success we've had avoiding turnovers is because of Steve Taylor. Steve's made a lot of good decisions. He's made good audibles. He's been throwing well.*

*I think Steve's been a very unselfish player. He's pretty much set his main goal as getting into the end zone, and I don't think he much cares how we do it, just so long as we score. I think it's a mistake for people to judge a quarterback simply on statistics like total offense or passing yards. Someone like Steve, who might run for 70 or 80 yards and pass for 100 more, is much more dangerous in my mind than a quarterback who throws for 250 yards a game*



*but can't run a lick. Steve's playing a role that is very demanding. He runs the option, audibles, throws the ball and runs a fairly sophisticated offense. Turnovers are something you can really count on — either getting them from the opponent or giving them up. But we try hard to take care of the ball, and Steve's been a big part of our ability to keep it.*

*Q: I was wondering what you thought the chances are of the NCAA and Nebraska going to a 12-game schedule like they have proposed? I think it would be great to add another game so that Husker fans would have a chance to see the Big Red. Mark Calson, Alliance, Neb.*

*A: I've heard about it, but I can't say I'm really in love with the idea right now. Sure, every school is going to like the idea of having the chance to bring more money into the budget. But I just wish people who vote on this thing would take the players into account. If a college did add a 12th game, I'm pretty sure it would be added to the front of the schedule, where you're more likely to have nice weather. That would cut into the players' summer job situation because they'd have to report earlier. With less time for a summer job, they're going to have less of a chance to make money. It seems college football con-*

*tinually asks more and more of the players and the athlete gets less and less. It used to be that football was just a four-month deal, where you played nine or maybe 10 games, but now we have 11, and there's a chance it could be 12. Plus, players are going from the regular season into off-season conditioning and into spring practice. And all this time, they don't have the monthly stipend like they used to, they can't sell their tickets, again like they used to in some places, and they don't get movie passes, which was something fairly common years ago. It's changed dramatically.*

*Bob Devaney has talked to me about a 12-game season, and I guess we'd probably look at it, but I'm a little concerned that it may start out as an option thing but turn into a situation where you don't have an option anymore because the money becomes too big an issue.*

*Q: What's the deal with steroids now in college football? I saw the article recently that talked about players at South Carolina going crazy on steroids, and it looks like this thing is getting out of hand. Gerald Gamble, Bakersfield, Calif.*

*A: I'd like to see the National Football League go to a serious drug-testing policy. I know they take a pretty hard-line approach to street drugs, but I think it would be wise to look at the steroid situation. In the last few years, statistics have come out showing that steroids can hurt you both physically and emotionally. There's the usual problems with insomnia and aggressive behavior, but there's also evidence now where guys are having pretty serious breaks with reality — psychotic behavior. That probably happens only about 10 percent of the time, but it's still very serious.*

*I'd also like to see something done at the high school level. A lot of kids are messing with steroids just for the sake of getting bigger and looking better. I guess nobody wants to be the 135-pound weakling who gets sand kicked in his face.*

*If you have questions for Coach Osborne, please address them to "Ask Tom Osborne," P.O. Box 83222, Lincoln, NE 68501. ■*





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